

10P
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MONDAY

THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

SCHUMACHER TRIUMPHS

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- Monica Seles sweeps through to victory in the French Open PAGE 27

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10P
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MONDAY

Terse statement from Downing Street after report of liaison with divorcée

Minister resigns over love affair

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JAMES LANDALE

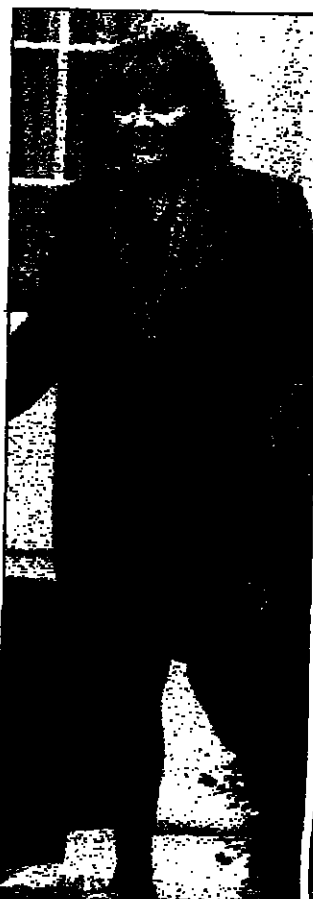
A JUNIOR Tory minister was forced to resign yesterday over allegations that he was having an extramarital affair.

The abrupt resignation of Rod Richards, a minister in the Welsh Office, immediately reopened allegations of sleaze in Tory ranks which the party has sought hard to dispel over the past few months. Since a series of private-life scandals — most notably those affecting the former ministers David Mellor and Tim Yeo — it has been a clear if unwritten rule that members of the Government caught out in this way must go immediately.

Within 18 hours of a Sunday tabloid newspaper publishing allegations of Mr Richards' affair, the MP for Clwyd North West was asked to leave his post. Party managers moved swiftly to head off a potentially damaging wave of sleaze allegations.

John Major was told of the allegations shortly before he left France yesterday morning. By the time he arrived at Downing Street at lunchtime, Mr Richards had resigned. No letters were exchanged between him and the Prime Minister. A terse statement from Downing Street said: "The Welsh Office Minister Mr Rod Richards has today offered his resignation. This has been accepted."

The *News of the World* claimed that the minister, married with three children, was having an affair with divorcée Julia Felthouse, 28, a former publicity officer for the National Canine Defence League. Senior colleagues of Mr Richards made clear that



The wife, Liz Richards is mother of three



Divorcée Julia Felthouse was PR for dog society

clean but I feel very sorry for his family. He has brought this on himself and paid very dearly for it," said Sir Eric Howells, president of the Conservative Party in Wales.

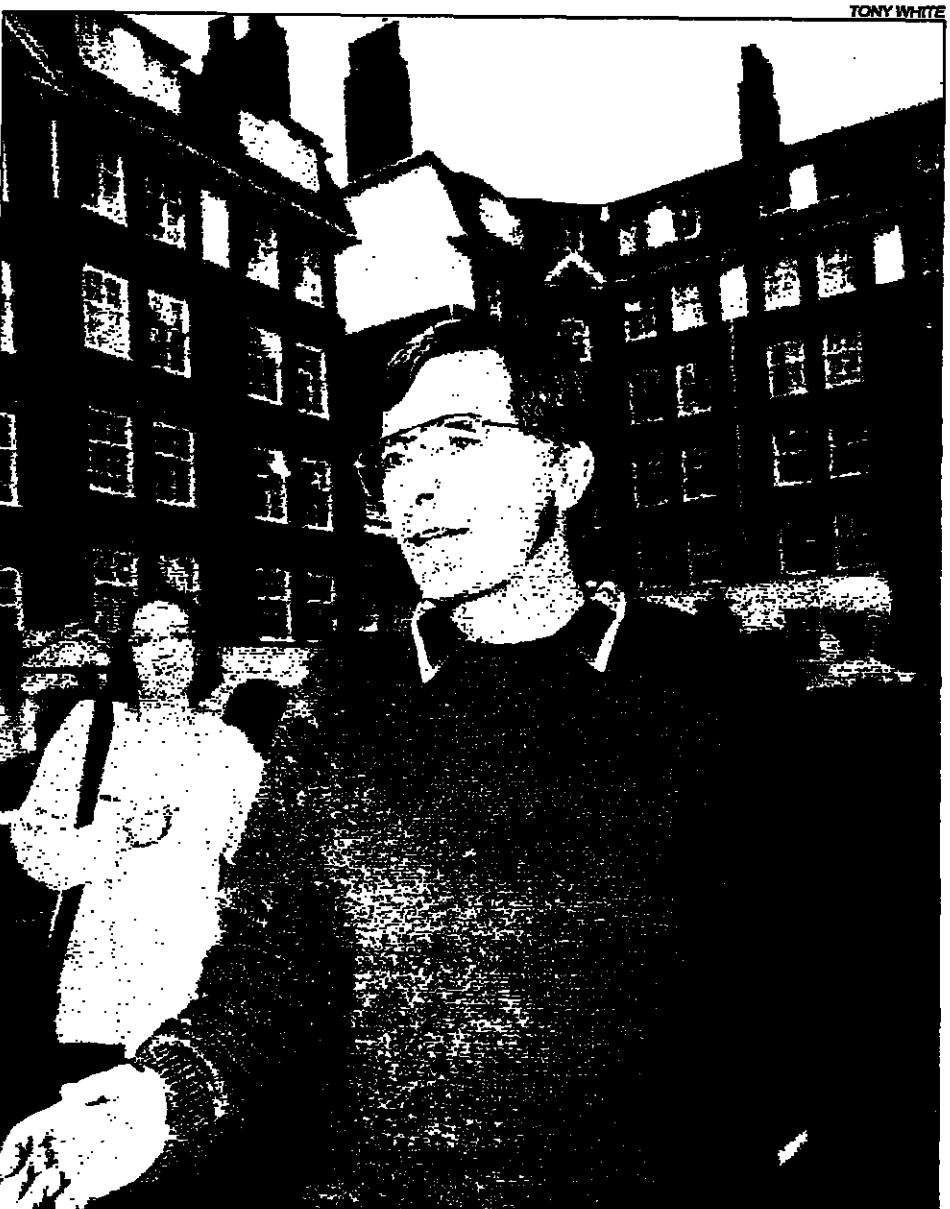
Mr Richards, who has been married for 21 years, was appointed to the Welsh Office in 1994 after winning his seat with a 6,050 majority at the last election. He gained a reputation as an effective and combative performer, earning the nickname "Redwood's rottweiler" after working for John Redwood, the then Welsh Secretary.

He lists his recreations in one parliamentary guidebook as rugby, cricket and family. His wife and three children are missing from *Who's Who*, which adds two other pastimes, walking and games.

A fluent Welsh speaker, Mr Richards was born and brought up in Llanelli and studied economics at the University of Wales before obtaining a short service commission in the Royal Marines. In the mid-1980s, he joined the BBC as a journalist before becoming a political adviser to David Hunt, the then Secretary of State for Wales, in 1993.

Mr Richards made headlines last year when he was forced to apologise after describing Labour councillors in Wales as "short, fat, slimy and corrupt". He was also reprimanded by Mr Redwood for saying the Welsh had an inferiority complex and no sense of self-worth.

Mr Richards refused to comment on the allegations yesterday as he left the family home in Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, with his two sons. It was believed the boys were returning to their public school after



Rod Richards returns to his London home after resigning as junior Welsh minister

the mid-term holiday. His wife, Liz, had earlier left with their daughter by car.

Mr Richards' rapid departure contrasts with the process that has preceded the resignation of other ministers at the centre of allegations about their private lives. David Mellor, the former National Heritage Secretary, remained a minister for more than two months after the disclosure of

his affair with actress Antonia de Sancha in the summer of 1992. He finally resigned after disclosures that he went on family holidays paid for by Mona Bauwens, the daughter of a PLO paymaster.

Tim Yeo, a former Environment Minister, also stayed in his post for several days after it was disclosed that a councillor had had a baby as a result of their affair.

Although Downing Street said that a replacement for Mr Richards would be found within days, it became clear last night that there may be difficulty in finding a suitable successor. There was speculation that Sir Wyn Roberts, a veteran Welsh Tory, could return to the Welsh Office as a stopgap.

Leading article, page 21

GET SET FOR SUMMER

EVERY MONDAY, ALL SUMMER, THE TIMES IS ONLY 10P

As a salute to a great summer of sport, every Monday The Times will bring you bigger and better sports coverage than any other daily paper. Section 2 today has 17 pages of sport, and there is a free 24-page guide to Euro 96

NEXT WEEK BOBBY ROBSON

The most successful England football manager for 30 years joins The Times team for Euro 96. Robson will bring his European and World Cup experience to bear on the biggest sporting event of the year

ALEX GREAVES

The first woman to ride in the 216-year history of the world's most famous horse race, the Derby, at Epsom next Saturday, will give her account of her preparations and her race only in The Times this week. Next Monday, she will report on her Derby

THE TIMES 10P EVERY SUMMER MONDAY

Radical pictures from Hockney

Britain's most celebrated artist, David Hockney, has been inspired by the latest inkjet printing technology to produce a radical new body of work.

He discovered that inkjet offered a palette of kaleidoscopic colours with an incomparable radiance and detail that blur the boundaries between photographs, paintings and the viewer's perception of them. Page 3

Hamburger ban

Political horse-trading for the formation of a new right-wing Israeli coalition. Cabinet began with triumphant religious parties demanding the closure of the popular non-kosher McDonald's in the heart of Jerusalem and other establishments as their price for joining. Page 11

Mobile phone users 'face cancer risk'

By ADAM FRESCO AND LIN JENKINS

FIVE MILLION people in Britain could be at risk from developing cancer or asthma by using mobile phones. Scientists in three continents believe the threat is so great that they have stopped using the phones.

A mobile phone is a mini-radio transmitter which sends microwaves to a receiving point up to several miles away and it is feared that these microwaves could be damaging brain cells or causing other side effects.

Evidence was assembled from research carried out by scientists in Australia, America and Stockholm for BBC 1's *Watchdog* HealthCheck programme to be screened to-night. Their experiments indicated links to diseases such as asthma, Alzheimer's disease and cancer. Two out of six scientists said that they had stopped using a mobile phone and the others said they did so "only when essential".

In America several people are bringing personal injury claims against phone companies and a \$25 million (£16.5 million) fund for research into the health effects has been set up by the phone industry.

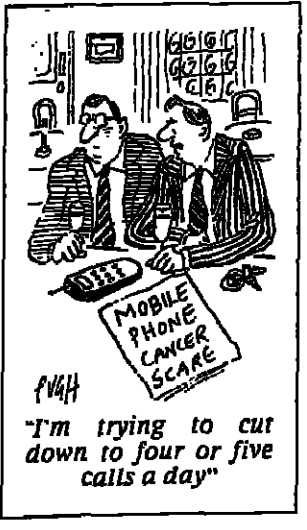
The programme interviewed neuroscientists at the University of Washington in Seattle who reported damage to DNA in the brain cells of rats exposed to microwave radiation similar to that emitted by mobile phones. Their work suggests that "hot-spots"

could develop inside the brain, causing cell damage.

Volkswagen UK has decided to issue a warning with each new car not to use a mobile phone inside the vehicle because the company believes that the electromagnetic fields generated are injurious to health.

The National Radiological Protection Board, the government agency, says there are no proven risks, but it has sponsored the construction of a £100,000 "phantom head" made of polymers and plastics which mimics skin and tissue. It is fitted with sensors to detect microwave radiation.

Spokesmen for both British Telecom Mobile and Vodafone said last night that their service fell "well within" safety guidelines.



Paris may U-turn over beef

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

FRANCE may withdraw its support for an casting of the ban on British beef at today's meeting of European Union farm ministers in Luxembourg. The move comes after a panel of French scientists recommended retaining the full embargo.

According to *Le Journal du Dimanche*, Philippe Vasseur, the French Agriculture Minister, told the head of the French consumers' group Que Choisir that he opposed a relaxation of the ban on beef by-products.

The disclosure came as a setback to hopes that European farm chiefs might grant Britain a first victory in its beef war as British ministers embark on a continental offensive intended to mix sweet reason with a new round of sabotaging the EU machine. There had been hopes that the worldwide ban on the export of beef might be lifted in respect of gelatin, tallow and semen at today's meeting.

Failing full approval, the Commission may be required to lift the by-product ban on its own, which would inflame many consumer groups and politicians, not least in Germany.

Pressure on Major, page 2
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Talks called to save Millennium project

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

HEADS of Britain's top companies have been summoned to an emergency meeting with Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, on Wednesday for talks on saving the troubled Millennium celebrations project.

The meeting is seen as a last-ditch attempt to get the project off the ground if the celebrations are to go ahead on January 1, 2000. It is believed that Mr Heseltine is anxious to encourage the leading companies to take an active part in sponsoring the plans with both cash and expertise.

Among those attending are Richard Giordano, chairman of British Gas, which owns the 70-acre former gasworks site in Greenwich, southeast London, scheduled to be used as one of the key sites for the event, and Sir David Simon, chairman of BP. A spokesman for BP confirmed the company had been summoned but was unable to elaborate on what assistance they could give to the project.

Estimates for the cost of the turn-of-the-century extravaganza range from £400 million to £700 million. Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, had promised £200 million of lottery cash on condition that private funds were found for the rest.

With all lottery recipients chasing the same sponsors, that has proved more difficult than the Government had

expected. As *The Times* reported last month, the problems encountered in persuading sponsors to commit themselves has been a severe blow. The Government views the event as a showcase for Britain and a rallying call from Mr Heseltine is seen as the only way of persuading the more reluctant of the country's largest companies to sponsor the celebrations.

It is believed that Mr Heseltine plans to lean on the heads of industry, asking them to do their bit for Britain. Apart from sponsoring the event, he will suggest they lend senior executives in an advisory capacity to inject an entrepreneurial flavour to the project.

The Greenwich Millennium Exhibition, the flagship event of Britain's celebration of the new century to match the 1951 Festival of Britain, has to be ready in less than four years. The Millennium Commission extended by six weeks to the end of this month the deadline for finding commercial sponsors. If all else fails, it will face the embarrassment of giving the exhibition to Birmingham, which was defeated in the final competition, or shelving the idea altogether.

A spokeswoman for the commission said last night it was trying "to ascertain the commercial viability of the proposed Millennium exhibition. It is at a sensitive stage."

XERYUS ROUGE
POUR HOMME



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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

HIGH SOCIETY IN THE '90s

Part two

PLUS: Play Euro Interactive Team Football, with a top prize of £25,000

WEDNESDAY

FASHION

Affordable Yves Saint Laurent

PLUS: How to win a PC in Interface

THURSDAY

FILMS

Robert Redford and Michelle Pfeiffer get Up Close and Personal

PLUS: The best of books

FRIDAY

POP

Charlie Watts, unStoned and sophisticated

PLUS: Clement Freud and Valerie Grove

SATURDAY

SUMMER OF '66

Celebrated in a special issue of the Magazine

PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: COLLECT TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN AN MGF

MPs urge Major to give concessions in beef conflict

By CHARLES BREMNER, in BRUSSELS, ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND MICHAEL HORNSBY

JOHN MAJOR faced pressure from senior Tories yesterday to scale down Britain's campaign of non-cooperation in Europe if the beef ban is partially lifted this week.

As the Prime Minister prepared to meet senior colleagues last night to draw up battle plans, pro-European Conservatives urged him to offer concessions to encourage further easing of the ban.

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, will today unveil in Luxembourg detailed proposals for speeding the eradication of "mad cow" disease. The latest government attempt to ease the export ban on British beef, outlined in a 130-page dossier, includes a re-worked proposal for the slaughter of up to 80,000 cattle, mainly from dairy herds, identified as being at particular risk of developing "mad cow" disease.

Ministers hope the action will prompt the lifting of the ban on beef derivatives, such as gelatin and tallow, and will be followed by agreement on a framework for gradually ending other parts of the ban.

Cabinet ministers insist that Britain's policy of non-cooperation with Europe will end only when there is agreement on the derivatives ban and the framework.

John Major's strategy meeting at Downing Street last night was attended by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Hogg and other senior ministers including Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister.

Pro-European Tories lined up yesterday to demand a relaxation of the non-cooperation campaign, after Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, had given warning against "trench warfare".

More than 130 haulage workers have lost their jobs because of the BSE scare. The beef export firm G. and R. Cadwallader, based at Oswestry in Shropshire, blamed the mad cow crisis for wiping out its haulage business. The company said it was unable to compete with firms who had slashed prices to survive. About 110 drivers and 28 office staff and mechanics will lose their jobs.

As Mr Hogg seeks to win over EU colleagues today with his fullest package of proposals for eradicating the BSE risk, Mr Clarke and Eric Forth, the Employment Minister, will be exercising the non-cooperation policy in adjoining rooms by blocking EU financial and social measures, some of them long supported by Britain. Tomorrow Mr Rifkind will open what the European media is calling a charm offensive in European capitals with a visit to Brussels to put the merits of Britain's case to Jacques Santer, the Commission President.

The non-cooperation policy does seem to be generating a desire among Eurocrats and European politicians to defuse the crisis and clear the way for normal EU business. The Irish, who take over the EU presidency in July, are lobbying hard to clear the decks of beef before their term begins.

Quentin Davies, MP for Stamford and Spalding, said: "If we have the ban lifted on the derivatives, the Government has obtained a very large part of its objectives and it would be natural if we at that point were able to respond in de-escalating this crisis."

Jim Lester, MP for Broxtowe, said: "I am genuinely concerned that, after starting this particular tiger running, it is extremely difficult to control, contrary to our genuine interests. The quicker we can de-escalate and get back to considered, sensible discussions, the better."

Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission, also urged ministers to consider scaling down the non-cooperation policy if the beef derivatives ban is lifted. "Let's start the de-escalation process, if the lifting of the byproduct ban goes through, by lowering the level of non-cooperation, even if it can't yet be totally removed," he said.

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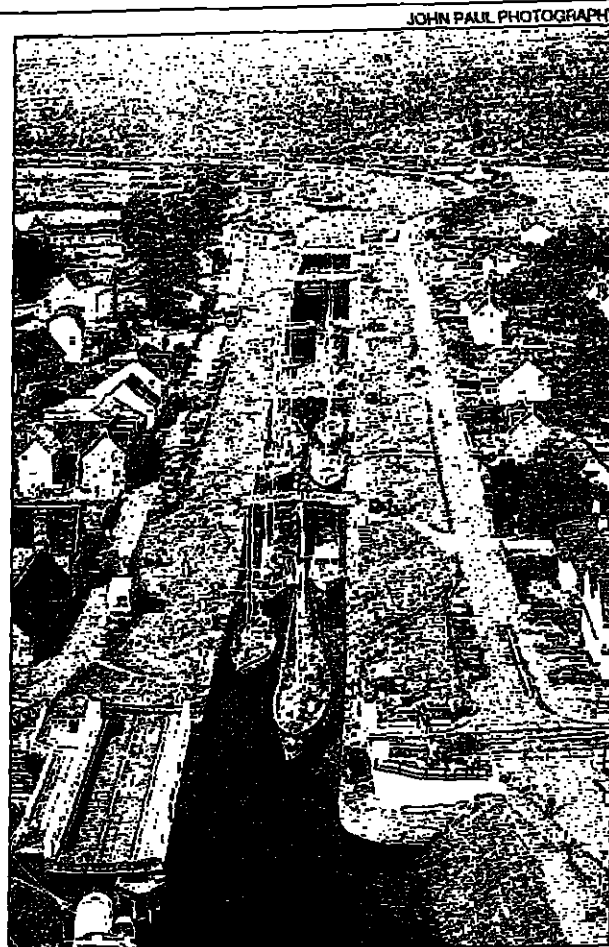
Five more cases of new CJD strain diagnosed

SCIENTISTS have confirmed a new case of the distinctive strain of the fatal human brain condition that has been linked to the "mad cow" epidemic in cattle (Michael Hornsby writes).

Up to five other people are believed to be suffering from the new type of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease because their symptoms and age fit the clinical description of those shown by previous victims. All are understood to be under 42 and to be showing the characteristic signs of anxiety, depression, unsteady-

ness and abnormal brain wave patterns. They have been listed as "probable" victims of the new strain by scientists at the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh. Only post-mortem analysis of brain tissue will be able to prove the accuracy of the diagnosis.

The Health Department refused to comment on the five cases but disclosed that one further victim of the new variant had been confirmed since March 20, when the Health Secretary disclosed its existence.



The Caledonian Canal: £20 million to repair leaks

Caledonian Canal 'facing closure'

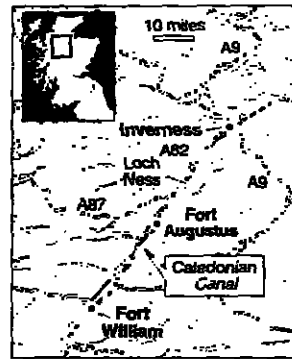
By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Caledonian Canal, one of the greatest engineering works of early 19th century Britain and a key contributor to the Highlands economy, is in danger of closure unless £20 million is raised for emergency repairs.

The canal is leaking so badly that most of the original 29 locks designed by the engineer Thomas Telford 200 years ago are in need of extensive maintenance. Tests are being carried out on a daily basis at Fort Augustus in order to keep it open.

British Waterways, the Government-sponsored agency that runs the canal network, is asking the Department of the Environment to pay for a four-year project of running repairs. It argues that the safety of the public is paramount.

Jim Stirling of British Waterways said yesterday that without it the canal



would certainly close, possibly as soon as next summer. "The locks are deteriorating at an accelerating rate. Obviously we would not be able to operate it if it were not safe."

British Waterways, which says the canal contributes £14.5 million to the tourist industry of the Great Glen and keeps almost 500 people in jobs, is expecting an announcement on funding in July.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Talks set to avert threat of post strike

Leaders of Britain's postal workers and the Post Office agreed yesterday to hold new talks on pay and working practices in an attempt to head off the first national mail strike for almost a decade. The decision follows the declaration of a 2-1 vote in favour of strike action.

But talks are unlikely to take place until next week, after the close of the Communication Workers Union annual conference, which began yesterday in Blackpool. A strike would hit domestic and business customers severely, since senior postal managers acknowledged privately that they would be unable to mount any significant mail services. Under government employment laws a strike would have to begin within four weeks of yesterday's vote.

Curfew opposed

Labour leaders backed away from calls by Jack Straw for a night-time curfew to stop young children roaming the streets. The Shadow Home Secretary had suggested allowing councils to order a 9pm "lock-up" on children aged under 11 in an effort to reduce late-night crime. Donald Dewar, the party's Chief Whip, said that he was "not sure that a curfew would be a workable solution". Mr Straw had said that curfews seemed to be a sensible way to deal with roaming gangs.

Visa lottery

Record numbers of young Irish people from both sides of the border have applied for American visas under this year's lottery draw that gives successful applicants the right to live and work in the United States. Up to 500 people will be told in July that a computer has selected their names at random for visas. Applicants must have been educated to sixth-form level or have two years' skilled work experience in the past five years.

Housing cost

Bad housing breeds a "yob culture", encourages crime and costs the National Health Service more than £1 billion a year, according to a report for the National Housing Forum published today. The cost of modernising Britain's housing stock is put at £10 billion a year for the next decade, but the report claims that money spent now would save lives and money. The forum includes local authorities and housing associations.

Tube defences

A team of police officers has been set up to counter the effects of a terrorist nerve gas attack on the London Underground and other Metro systems. The British Transport Police acted after the gas attack by a doomsday sect on the Tokyo underground in which more than ten people died. Officers are equipped with protective clothing similar to suits used in the Gulf War and equipment able to detect nerve gases.

Flyaway success

A rural airport once derided as a ridiculous project is now heading for an annual passenger turnover of 250,000 people and yearly profits of £400,000. Knock airport in Co Mayo celebrated its tenth anniversary at the weekend. Flights travel to and from North America and England and passenger levels are expected to reach 250,000 by 1998. Building the airport cost £12 million. £3.5 million of which was raised by a local priest.

Carey says Church must adapt to seven-day role

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, yesterday called on the Church of England to adapt to the commercialisation of Sunday with the creation of a seven-day-a-week church.

Concern that the traditional sanctity of the Sunday sabbath has been diluted by the demands of the modern world prompted Dr Carey to call for changes in the established approach to worship.

Arguing that Sunday schools needed no longer meet just on a Sunday he said that Christianity would decline if the Church held on to its traditional sabbath as the only day that should be reserved for worship and prayer.

Dr Carey, preaching in the Guildford diocese, said the Church must become a "seven-day-a-week" Church, adaptable to the demands of today's technological and high pressure society.

"Such is the pressure on Sunday now, through commercial expansion, leisure opportunities and family commitments, that if we allow Sunday to be the only day in which Christians gather together, we shall find commitment to Christ diminishing," he said. "Sunday schools don't



Carey: Sunday is not only day for Christians

have to meet on Sundays. Bible study groups can be a focus for worship alongside our regular services on Sundays."

He argued that the Church's Sunday activities should become "significant elements" within a wider programme that allowed the Church to reach out into the community.

Many churches, in particular on the rapidly growing evangelical wing, already have services and Bible study groups which encompass the entire working week as clergy come to terms with their flock's preference for shopping and sporting activities on the

traditional day of rest. But Dr Carey believes more needs to be done, and that the talents of the laity must be better tapped, to secure the future of the Church in a changing society. He called on the Church to cease its self-centred approach and to look outwards into the wider world.

Dr Carey, criticising the prophets of "doom and despondency" who saw a bleak outlook for the Church, said: "Our priorities have often been church centred, perhaps with survival as their focus. But we need to move beyond survival and beyond mere maintenance. The gospel is for everyone."

Dr Carey, preaching at the Rushmore Arena, Aldershot, at an "evangelism celebration", added: "We live in a society which is losing touch with its spiritual and moral roots. It is confused and struggles to make sense of what it believes. Individualism and relativism have seeped deep into our culture."

The Archbishop called on churchgoers not to build barriers around their Church. "Don't make the finer points of doctrine a reason for closing doors on people whose understanding of the faith may be woefully inadequate."

Diary, page 20

Inspectorate clamps down on police 'fishing trips' to clear up crime

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office is to crack down on the way police extract confessions from convicted prisoners after concern that the pressure of meeting clear-up targets is creating an abuse of the system.

New national guidelines for officers will ensure that convicted criminals are not credited with crimes they might confess to but did not commit. In future police officers working to clear any backlog of unsolved crime will have to cross refer any confessions with existing evidence and will no longer be permitted to rely solely on "fishing trips" to interview prisoners.

Drawn up by the Home Office's inspectors of constabulary, the new guidance to police officers will recommend more precise paperwork after fears that bogus confessions might be used by officers under pressure to meet performance targets in cutting crime. There is

already worry that there is a wide variation between forces in the number of crimes solved by the prison visits.

The new guidelines will be the third attempt in ten years that the Home Office and the inspectorate have tried to police the long-established system of visits, and to prevent abuse. Guidelines were first introduced in 1987 and were re-issued in 1994.

Earlier this year two West Midlands officers were suspended and investigations launched after allegations from former prisoners that they were given trips to public houses, hamburger bars and sex sessions in return for confessing to crimes they did not commit.

Last week a report by the Home Office's inspector of constabulary on police in northeast London questioned the reliance on visits to clear up domestic burglaries and criticised the supervision by senior officers. Scotland Yard has already brought in new guidelines in the past few days after criticisms by the inspectorate of

practice in one part of London and the London guidance is modelled on the planned national announcement.

Under the existing guidelines the visits can be made only if a prisoner requests to see police, where he has made admissions but refuses to let them be placed before a court or where new evidence has emerged. The visits should be authorised by an assistant chief constable.

Closed-circuit television should be installed in custody areas of police stations in London under proposals aimed at allaying public concern over deaths in police stations. The multi-million-pound plan is one of a series of recommendations in a report intended to reassure residents, especially members of the ethnic minority communities, throughout the Metropolitan Police area.

It also recommends that a senior Scotland Yard officer should immediately consider relieving from duty any officer involved in a case where a person has died in custody.

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'It seems the most beautiful printing of photography I have seen. The colour is almost physical'

Hockney's camera puts new technology in focus

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER faxes and photocopies, Britain's most celebrated living artist, David Hockney, has been inspired by the latest inkjet printing technology to produce a radical new body of work.

Hockney, 59, an artist who has always seen technology as just another tool of expression, has created photographs that do not look like photographs. Like his heroes Picasso and Matisse, Hockney can never resist experimenting and innovating: inkjet technology, he discovered, offered a palette of kaleidoscopic colours with an incomparable radiance and detail that blur the boundaries between photographs, paintings and our perception of them. Hockney has never considered his activities as

distinct from one another and inkjet printing — which involves dye being sprayed with extreme accuracy at a surface at a rate of 4 million 15 micron droplets per second — further narrows the divide between them.

The works, to be unveiled today at Salts Mill in Saltaire, near his home town of Bradford, mark an important departure from his earlier experiments with both paintings and photography.

These are mesmerising images that explore illusion and space and bewilder the eye. Titles such as *Photograph of a painting with motif* tease the viewer into playing spatial games: photographs of photographs of his paintings juxta-



Hockney: sees artistic possibilities of camera

posed with the actual paintings and interiors featuring people looking at the paintings. A canvas on an easel is juxtaposed with the actual still-life it represents and a photographic detail of one of his other paintings.

In one, called *Photography is dead. Long live painting*, Hockney's painting of a vase of sunflowers is photographed next to the actual objects: painted with reality and perspective, he has painted the lower part of the vase on to another piece of paper lying on the table, but photographed so that it appears to be standing next to the real thing.

Taking the idea a step further, Hockney suggested sitting a huge jardinière of sunflowers in the gallery.

Yesterday afternoon, commenting on the ideas he was

conveying through the *Photography is dead* title, Hockney said: "Photography is being altered by drawing because of the computer — ie moving back to painting."

He said his latest works were made with a 10 by 8 camera with natural light and varying exposure times on a colour transparency film. They were printed with an inkjet printer on heavyweight, textured paper.

He said: "How long the colour will last is not known, but has been thought about by the craftsmen involved in the process."

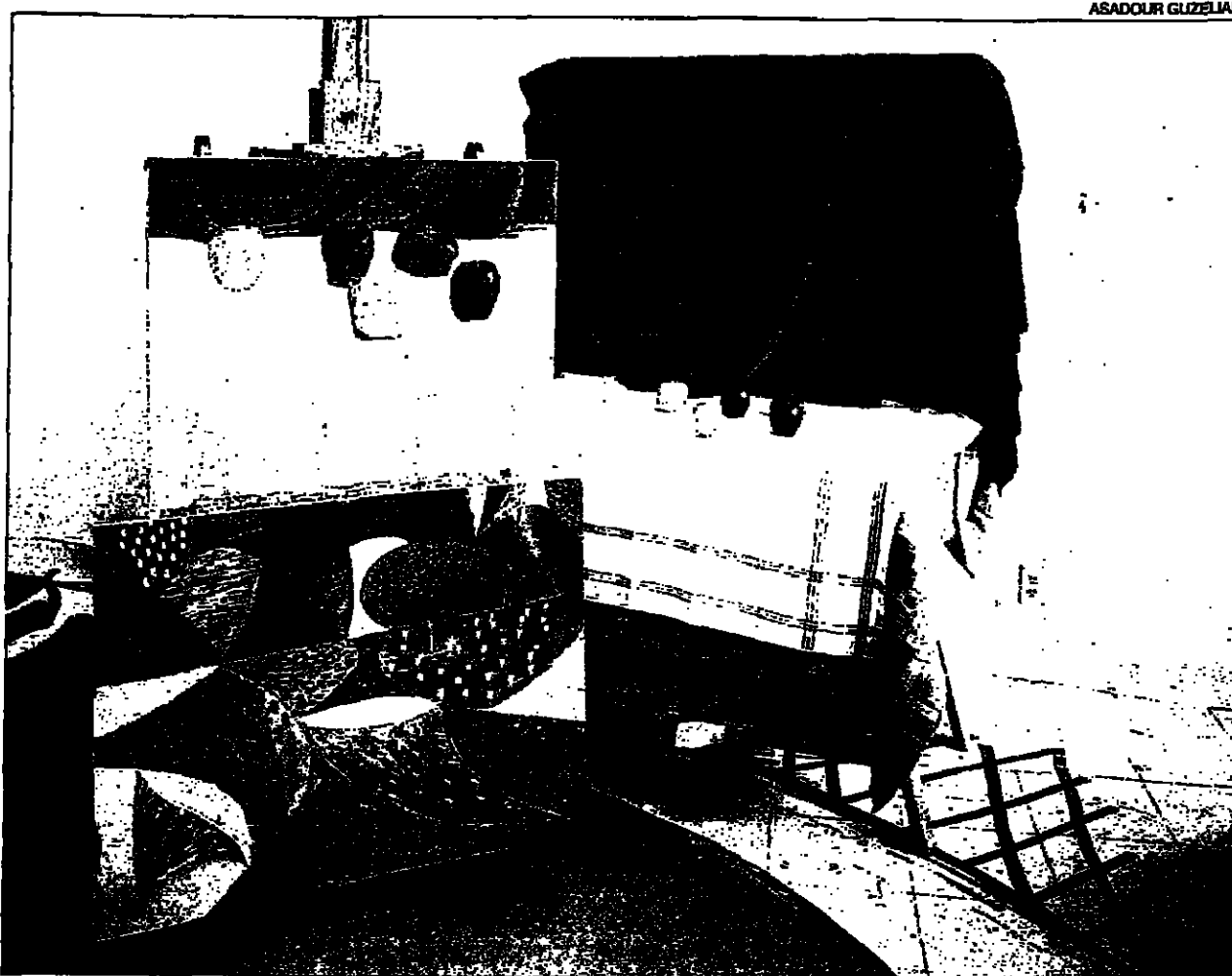
"It seems to me to be the most beautiful printing of photography I have seen. The colour on the paper seems almost physical. The surface of the paper itself is beautiful."

He added: "Enjoy the moment. The piece of paper is beautiful. It will slowly change like everything else."

Hockney first dabbled in photography in 1982, with his Cubist-inspired Polaroid collage. Before that, ironically, he had scorned the camera as "nothing more than a recording device", useful as preliminary studies for paintings.

"You'd never look at a photo for more than 30 seconds unless there were a thousand faces and you were looking for your mother," he once said.

He was soon seeing the artistic possibilities of photography, creating multiple viewpoints and complex



Hockney teases the viewer into a spatial game with *Photograph of a painting with motif*

narratives: his camera art, experimental and spontaneous in technique, has become a major part of his career.

The images go on show at the 1853 Gallery, Salts Mill, a sprawling Grade II listed Victorian mill run by a local businessman Jonathan Silver, 46, who was educated at the same school as Hockney, but became friendly with the artist

when he was a 13-year-old schoolboy and Hockney was being noticed at the Royal College of Art.

Mr Silver rents out part of the building for commercial use: the rest is given over to Hockney. About 300 works, some owned by Mr Silver or on loan from the artist, are on view, attracting 10,000 visitors a week. Mr Silver said of the

latest works: "They are remarkable. He's taken technology and humanised it in his own way."

The exhibition catalogue observes: "He has taken two useful but humble functions of the photograph — the function of recording works of art and the function of the exhibition installation shot — and transformed them. Because the

paintings and the exhibition photographed are his own, Hockney has been able to play games with the subject-matter ... In this way, the photographs transcend their role as artifacts, records or simple examples of the medium of photography. They become works of imagination." □ Salts Mill is open seven days, admission free.



Jonathan Silver with the print *Photography is dead*

Six members of family of 13 die in house fire

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A MOTHER and five of her 11 children died in a fire that swept through a house in the Irish Republic. Breda Maher, 48, was killed with two sons and three daughters by the blaze, which is believed to have been started by a grill that had been left on.

Three of Mrs Maher's sons were still in hospital last night, one in a critical condition, while the remaining three were not in the house in Portlannington, Offaly, when fire broke out early yesterday morning.

The dead included Martin Maher, 23, Barry, 12, Joanne, 9, Fiona, 6, and Martina, 2. Their father, Alo Maher, raised the alarm and escaped injury.

Anthony Maher, an uncle,

said one of the sons, Vincent, 17, had blamed himself for causing the fire. "Vincent said he left the grill on and he was telling his father it was all his fault," Mr Maher said.

Colm Maher, 25, who was in a critical condition in hospital last night, suffered serious burns trying to rescue his younger brother Barry, who had muscular dystrophy.

Mr Maher said: "Colm was carrying Barry on his back downstairs when the whole lot collapsed under him and he lost the wee lad into the fire. Colm was just a ball of flames."

He said they wrapped him in a blanket and laid him on the grass. He was repeatedly muttering the phone number of his girlfriend, who was on

holiday in Galway and unaware of the fire.

Experts were yesterday examining the burnt-out shell of the house to determine the cause of the fire. Anne Ryan, a neighbour, said she rushed out to find it in flames. "All the rooms were filled with fire and there was only the sound of bursting glass. There was no sound of distress inside."

On Wednesday last week the local community held a fund-raising event to buy a wheelchair for Barry and send him on a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Cathy Honan, a local senator, said: "They were a very united family. Breda and Alo were like two lovers. They would go around holding hands — and that was after eleven children."



Joanna and Fiona Maher, who died with their mother, sister, and two of their eight brothers as fire gutted their house in the Republic of Ireland yesterday



Wiltshire village's pipe dream goes up in smoke

By ADRIAN LEE

THE British company that handcrafted the Rolls-Royce of smokers' pipes has closed with the loss of seven jobs. The Tilthead Pipe Company made pipes for some of the world's most famous pipe users, including Bing Crosby, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Selleck.

The demise of Tilthead reflects a continuing decline in popularity since the 1960s, when pipe smoking seemed synonymous with sagacity. There are thought to be fewer than 20 companies making pipes in Britain.

At the height of its success Tilthead, based in a Wiltshire village of that name on the edge of Salisbury Plain, produced 315 pipes a week at prices up to £1,200 apiece. The company's James Upshall pipe was widely recognised as one of the world's finest.

A creditors' meeting will be held on Friday but unless a buyer can be found, one of the most famous names in pipe making will be lost. Barry Jones, the managing director, said yesterday that the company, founded early this century, has debts of £80,000.



Crosby: smoked pipe made by Tilthead

The closure was greeted with dismay by aficionados of pipe smoking. Peter Wiseman, 63, of Orpington, southeast London, whose collection of 158 pipes includes half a dozen made by Tilthead, said: "There has been a decline in pipe smoking and I blame the health fascists, but there are still many of us left."

Mr Wiseman is secretary and treasurer of The Pipe Club of London, founded to promote and protect the interests of pipe smokers. The club

has 448 members. "The young of today generally don't want to smoke a pipe because they think they will lose face and suffer ridicule," Mr Wiseman said. "Any fool can smoke a cigarette but to smoke a pipe you have to know what you are doing."

A quality briar pipe can take five years to make and there are some 300 tobaccos to choose from. The introduction of flavoured varieties has helped to attract younger smokers but John Duncan, former president of the Briar Pipe Trade Association, fears pipe making may become a cottage industry. "We need a young celebrity smoker," he said. "Someone from Take That smoking a pipe would do a power of good."

The popularity of pipe smoking peaked in the early 1960s and was encouraged by the pipe-smoking Prime Minister, Harold Wilson. The industry stages a pipe smoker of the year contest. Previous winners include Ian Botham, Barry Norman, Fred Trueman and James Galway. This year's winner was Sir Colin Davis, principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra.

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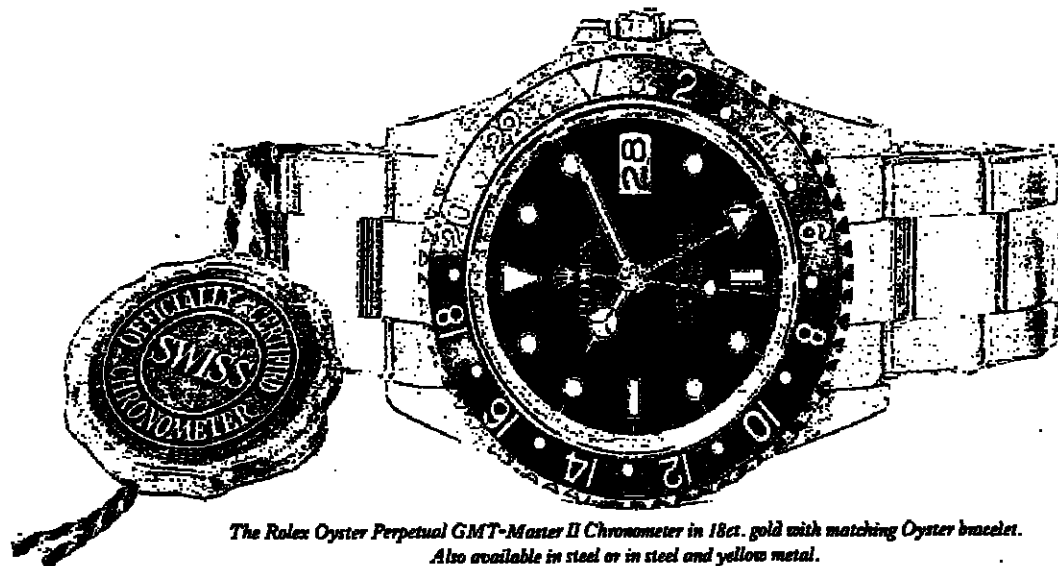
The GMT-Master II worn by Concorde Captain Steve Wand allows him to read London time with the conventional hour

and minute hands, and he can read New York time with the 24-hour hand and the clearly marked rotating bezel that is the hallmark of this classic design.

Says Captain Wand: "My GMT-Master II is like Concorde. When you settle on a design that is successful, you want to keep it."

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Woodhead was talking

Budget might hit
university fees

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Tourists go underground to explore relics of nuclear age

Bunkers come in from the cold

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TOP-secret nuclear bunkers that would have provided safe homes for regional governments during a doomsday missile attack on Britain are coming in from the cold as the latest tourist attraction.

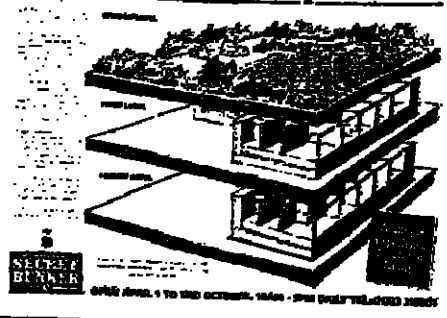
Ten of the Government's 17 nuclear bomb-proof bunkers, huge three-storey buildings built below ground, have been sold in England and Wales as the Home Office relinquishes its hold on the emergency hideouts.

Two more have been transferred to other government departments and the Scottish Office has also sold several bunkers in Scotland.

Although the Government reserves the right to reinstate the bunkers as regional government headquarters in the event of a threatened nuclear attack, some of them have been turned into museums and are attracting an increasing number of people, curious to see how taxpayers' money was spent to allow ministers and officials to run the country after a nuclear holocaust.

The ten bunkers, sold to

Scotland's best kept secret



An advert for the Fife bunker, no longer quite the well-kept secret it used to be



private companies and individuals, have fetched nearly £1.2 million, although they cost tens of millions of pounds to build in the 1950s. The bunkers disposed of by the Home Office in England and Wales include ones in Skendleby in Lincolnshire, Loughborough in Leicestershire, Kelvedon Hatch in Essex, Preston in Lancashire, Hack Green in Cheshire and Basingstoke in Hampshire.

A former army sergeant who took voluntary redundancy in 1994 now spends every working day underground in a nuclear bunker sold by the

Scottish Office for £125,000. He has just become manager of the Troy Wood bunker outside Anstruther in Fife, which has been turned into a museum.

Last year, about 68,000 people visited the bunker, which is filled with Second World War fixtures and fittings.

Ken Mitchell, 36, who served with the Royal Signals, gave up a degree course at Stirling University to apply for the job as manager of the museum. He now spends each working day surrounded by reinforced concrete 100ft be-

low ground. "People are very curious about these bunkers," he said. "They come here and either spend hours wandering around or they leave quite quickly, amazed at how past governments have spent taxpayers' money."

The Government spent £5 million refurbishing Troy Wood three years before it was put on the market. The bunker has accommodation for 300 people. The Home Office said the average nuclear bunker was built to house 150 working officials who would be headed by a regional commissioner, nor-

mally a government minister, acting under emergency powers.

The bunker at Kelvedon Hatch, which was bought by Michael Parrish, a farmer, for £100,000, has also been turned into a museum. He has missile attack early-warning sirens, scrambler phones and teleprinters on display. There is also a wax figure of John Major asleep on one of the bunks.

The Government put the regional nuclear bunkers up for sale once the Cold War ended. However, one bunker survived the sell-off. Project Pindar, codename for a new Government nuclear command bunker underneath the Ministry of Defence, went ahead despite the sale of the regional headquarters.

This bunker, which became operational in December 1992, cost £126 million, of which £66 million was spent on construction and £60 million on systems installations.

The Whitehall strategic command centre for Ministry of Defence and other government staff is manned in peacetime by a small staff and has facilities for emergencies.



Ken Mitchell, manager of Troy Wood bunker, which could accommodate 300

Primary pupils lag years behind Europe in maths

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

PRIMARY school pupils in England are up to two years behind their contemporaries in parts of Europe and the Far East in mathematics, according to a report to be published by the school inspection agency later this month.

The review of international research on primary school standards, concentrates on mathematics and science as the subjects least affected by language differences. Its findings, compiled by Professor David Reynolds, of Newcastle University, will reignite the debate on the impact of progressive teaching methods.

Professor Reynolds, who heads the International School Effectiveness Research Project Team, links English under-achievement with the relatively low amount of direct teaching time for each pupil in schools organising pupils in small groups rather than as a whole class.

In a preview of the report on the BBC's *Panorama* pro-

gramme tonight Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, says the research shows there are "significant problems" in mathematics and more could be achieved in science. "It's a portrait of a system that's not succeeding enough when we compare what children in European countries and in Pacific Rim countries are achieving."

Three recent international studies examined in Professor Reynolds' report all show English children falling behind. Research at Exeter University showed them performing poorly in a 17-country comparison at the start of secondary education; the National Institute of Economic and Social Research uncovered a two-year gap in mathematics compared with Swiss primary pupils; and the Newcastle team produced similar conclusions in relation to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The Newcastle research compared standards in up to a dozen primary schools in nine countries. The English schools showed the greatest variation between high and low achievers and were the only ones where the gap widened during the two years of the survey.

In mathematics, English pupils were on a par with those in The Netherlands and America, but behind Hong Kong and Taiwan, which had the best high-level results. The English did well in statistics and data-handling, but were poor at basic arithmetic.

In his *Panorama* interview, Mr Woodhead says the research suggests that at least half of all primary school lessons should be devoted to whole-class teaching.



Woodhead: said system was failing children

Budget might lift university fee threat

CONFIDENTIAL reports on the state of universities, due for completion this week, may pave the way for a lifting of the threat to charge entry fees for degree courses for the first time (John O'Leary writes).

Joint working groups of civil servants and vice-chancellors are to produce assessments of the damage done by cuts in government funding and the potential for private sponsorship of research equipment. The universities hope that the result will be extra money in November's Budget.

The Committee of Vice-

Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) has never lifted its threat to charge entry fees of at least £300 if the next Budget fails to redress last year's cuts. The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service is advising this year's applicants not to defer entry in case fees are introduced in 1997.

But the CVCP is optimistic that at least one of the working groups will support the universities' contention that the planned cut of 31 per cent in capital budgets will damage the quality of higher education. Dr Ted Nield, the committee's spokesman, said yesterday that universities had shown that they could not rely on the Private Finance Initiative to generate sufficient cash to update research equipment.

A separate report on science facilities, prepared for the three higher education funding councils, is expected to show that almost four out of five departments are being prevented from carrying out important experiments because of lack of money.

Dr Nield said the Government's review of higher education under Sir Ron Dearing could not address acute short-term problems. "We will be looking again at fees after the 1996 Budget to see if the Government has done anything to improve the situation."



ALL MR. KENWOOD WANTED AFTER HIS LONG FLIGHT WAS A TRANQUIL DINNER IN OUR GARDEN BRASSERIE. (IT WAS 6.03 AM.)

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Ireland's 'Queen Mary' seeks common ground in Britain

SILVIA WALKER

The woman reckoned by her compatriots to be the world's most popular head of state arrives in Britain tomorrow for her first official visit.

Mary Robinson, President of the Irish Republic, has already been to the neighbour country more than a dozen times since she was elected six years ago. In the course of turning upside-down a presidency once regarded as a rest cure for retired politicians, she once took tea with the Queen at Buckingham Palace. But this week's formal visit marks another stage in Mrs Robinson's relentless personal campaign to make Ireland and Britain enjoy each other's company a little more.

In an interview with *The Times* on the eve of her trip, she recalled that when she suggested her first trip to Britain in 1991, she discovered that she would be the first President of her young country ever to set foot there. "I think that in its own way explains a little of the difficulties and why I believe that this visit is very significant progress," she said.

The implied rebuke to her predecessors for failing to

Mary Robinson arrives in London tomorrow on the first official visit by an Irish President — and a personal crusade to forge better relations, George Brock reports

make the same journey is the closest Mrs Robinson can come to politics. She wants the peace in Northern Ireland to be "sustainable" and would "of course" like to see a ceasefire, but leaves it at that.

She sits ramrod straight on the sofa and refuses to discuss the whispering campaign that is pushing her as the next Secretary-General of the United Nations. Although voted into office by a people with no fondness for the nobility, the President has a naturally aristocratic style.

With the American Ambassador, the Papal nuncio, and Dublin Zoo as their nearest neighbours, Mrs Robinson, her husband Nick, a lawyer, and their three children live in the almost eerie quiet of the old residence of British viceroys in Phoenix Park. Not for nothing have some Presidents been known as the "Prisoner in the Park". The President requires the Government's permission to leave

the country, to deliver high-profile speeches and must keep out of politics. Even the make of mineral water available in the residence is regularly changed to avoid any suspicion that the head of state is endorsing a particular brand.

Acquiring a reputation as "Queen Mary", she has used her chic formality to escape and turn herself into a global superstar, selling what she calls "the modern Ireland". Britain and Ireland, she thinks, may be so wrapped up in Northern Ireland that they have failed to notice changes elsewhere.

With 43 per cent of its population under 25, world-class hitmakers from U2 to Riverdance, and a booming "Celtic Tiger" economy, Ireland has become more outward-looking and self-confident. Successful membership of the EU —

which the Irish Government chairs for the second half of this year — has altered what was once a sour preoccupation with Britain, she says. Being inside the EU "meant that we were less inclined to define ourselves almost exclusively in our relationship with Britain. And a lot of that defining was negative, looking back, had bitterness in it."

By devoting time to Irish people living outside the Republic, Mrs Robinson seems to be encouraging Irish nationalism to be less concerned with territory and more with "Irishness". The Irish diaspora, she says, is not simply territorial. It is a concept that is open to what Seamus Heaney called "two-mindedness".

"If we relate that to the context of Northern Ireland and we say that Irishness is not simply territorial, then it can reach out to those in Northern Ireland whose sense of identity is British and who feel very strongly that they define themselves as being British. And it's possible to say, 'fine you define yourself as British but that doesn't exclude a component of Irishness, which can be a meeting ground.'" This prim



Mary Robinson at Phoenix Park, her official residence: her energetic style has transformed the presidency

and circumspect support for a more generous attitude to Unionists in the North is as political as Mrs Robinson gets nowadays. In an earlier life, as a well-known lawyer and campaigner for women's

rights, she was more outspoken. Mrs Robinson has only just turned 52. If she chose to run for another seven-year term as President next year, she would face no opposition. But there is talk that she is

chafing at her imprisonment in the Park and wants to spread her wings. If a Third World candidate or her inexperience in big organisations denied her the top job at the UN, she could set her cap at

becoming the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees. Almost as soon as she leaves London, she visits America. Her meetings in Washington may turn out to be job interviews.

IRA has the will and the means to renew violence

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA has threatened to renew "military activities" after a three-month lull in bombings in spite of calls yesterday for a new ceasefire and an apparent softening of the Government's position on disarmament.

The threat is being treated seriously by the security authorities who have suspected for some time that the seven-man IRA army council cannot decide whether to support the peace path.

The IRA hierarchy's refusal to consider a new ceasefire before the proposed all-party talks next Monday has also undermined the organisation's confidence in its ability to mount a new wave of attacks.

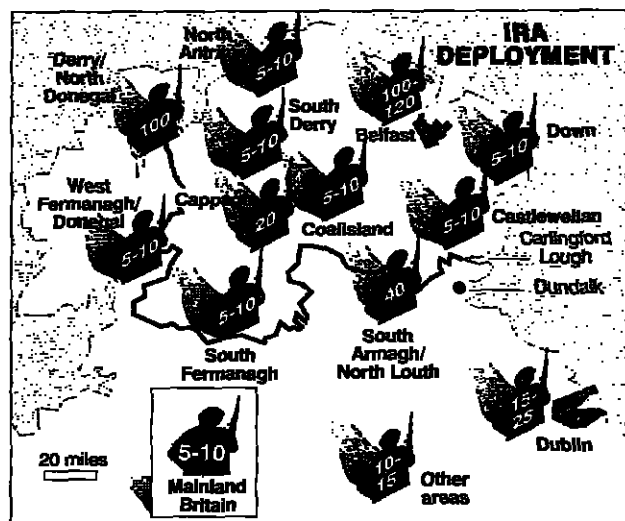
Not only are there large stocks of weapons and explosives stored in secret dumps in the Republic, but during the 17-month ceasefire, the terrorists developed a new, more deadly mortar, known as the mark 17.

According to an assessment of the IRA's capabilities, to be published by *Jane's Intelligence Review* in July and August, the mark 17 mortar has been tested in the Carlingford Lough area of Co Louth, south of the border. *Jane's* says that an analysis of the most recent bombing operations in London suggests that the IRA is not as effective as in previous campaigns. One bomb exploded prematurely, killing an IRA operative, and a

30lb Semtex device hidden under Hammersmith bridge failed to detonate.

However, the security authorities are in no doubt that the IRA has the capability and weapons to mount attacks over a sustained period. According to security sources, the IRA's stocks include up to six Sam-7 surface-to-air missiles. Previous reports referred to just one Sam-7, which has never been used.

Jane's says the IRA's estimated arms inventory includes 40 RPG-7 rocket launchers, 20 127mm heavy machineguns, six flamethrowers, 650 AK47 assault rifles, a few dozen Armalite assault rifles, three tonnes of Semtex.



one Barrett M82A1 sniper rifle and 600 detonators. The IRA is also believed to have Heckler & Koch G5 assault rifles. Estonia is believed to be a new source of illegal arms for the IRA. This has been denied by Estonian government spokesmen but intelligence sources in Britain admit this suspected link has been investigated.

The *Jane's* assessment says that during the ceasefire that ended in February, the IRA

kept its structure intact and the so-called quartermaster-general, a man living just south of the border near Dundalk, had sufficient terrorist material to equip the equivalent of two "battalions" for a considerable time.

The network of IRA active service units is also in place and ready to be reactivated. Although the focus since the ceasefire ended has been on bombing operations in London, the units in Northern Ireland have remained fully operational. In the Irish Republic there are a small number of active service units in Dublin and additional members are spread thinly around the arms dumps in other areas of the Republic.

Some of the biggest arms dumps are believed to be in the Munster area in the south of the Republic. They are believed to be inside farm buildings or under silage pits to counteract sophisticated detection equipment used by the security forces.

Reynolds says ceasefire precondition is silly

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ALBERT REYNOLDS, the former Irish Prime Minister, yesterday called on London and Dublin to drop their insistence that the IRA must declare a ceasefire to allow Sinn Féin to join all-party talks on June 10.

Speaking after Sinn Féin increased its share of the vote in last week's election, Mr Reynolds said that the two governments would look "silly" if they barred Sinn Féin from the talks.

Mr Reynolds, who played a key role in brokering the IRA's last ceasefire in 1994, said that Sinn Féin should be admitted to the talks if it gives an undertaking that it will persuade the IRA to end its campaign. "It would look silly to the whole world if Sinn Féin is excluded. They should be allowed into the preliminary talks on the understanding there will be a ceasefire... Talks in the Middle East and Bosnia started without ceasefires."

Mr Reynolds' comments came as Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, prepared to thrash out the final details for the talks at a meeting in London today. Dublin is pressing Britain to agree an agenda for the talks that will reassure Sinn Féin that the issue of IRA weapons will not be allowed to block discussions on other issues, such as policing and constitu-

tional matters. Dublin is hoping that Sir Patrick and Mr Spring will reach agreement on nominating George Mitchell, the former US senator, to chair the talks on decommissioning. Mr Reynolds believes that republicans would be encouraged if Mr Mitchell, who chaired the international commission on arms, is given such an important role.

The former Taoiseach said yesterday that a pledge from the two governments that decommissioning would not dominate the talks on June 10 would help to give Sinn Féin the reassurances it needs for a ceasefire. "Calling a ceasefire is a highly complex thing to do," he said. "There are structures to go through. What we

need now is for Sinn Féin to say that they are prepared to use their best endeavours to secure an IRA ceasefire." Mr Reynolds made clear, however, that the IRA would have to declare a ceasefire by the start of "real talks", probably in September.

The call for the two governments to relax their demands for a ceasefire before June 10 was firmly rejected yesterday by Mr Spring. He said that the Irish Government had a "clear, consistent" and "morally correct" position that the IRA must renew its ceasefire. Mr Spring described Mr Reynolds' intervention as very unhelpful. "If he were Taoiseach today he would not be making comments like that."

Mr Reynolds' comments nevertheless indicated that London and Dublin would face growing pressure on both sides of the Irish border to relax their demand for a ceasefire to allow Sinn Féin to join the talks. Sinn Féin will use the 15.47 per cent it won in the election, its highest result in the history of Northern Ireland, to demand its place at the talks solely on that basis.

Mr Spring kept alive hopes of a ceasefire yesterday when he said that he hoped to reach agreement with Sir Patrick on the arms issue in London. He told RTE radio that he hoped to "tie down these matters in a way that would bring all the parties to the table."



Reynolds brokered the last ceasefire

Labour seeks invitation for Sinn Féin

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE Labour leadership will increase pressure on ministers tomorrow to accept an IRA ceasefire at face value and allow Sinn Féin into next week's all-party talks.

Marjorie Mowlam, Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, will set out the need to include Gerry Adams' party in the negotiations even without a long-term truce from the IRA.

John Major has repeatedly made clear that Sinn Féin will not be allowed into the talks unless there is an unequivocal restoration of the ceasefire, backed by firm evidence of a cessation of violence. However, Ms Mowlam will make clear in a key speech in Belfast tomorrow that ministers should not attach conditions to

a declaration of a ceasefire. "We should not be looking for validation. A declaration should be enough and we should not go into a definition of a ceasefire. I would hope that the British and Irish governments will look at how the talks will develop. If there is an IRA ceasefire then Sinn Féin should be allowed into the talks."

Such a move would infuriate Unionists, who say that a declaration of a ceasefire only days before the talks would be meaningless. Ministers are reluctant to concede any ground on the terms of a ceasefire, but are braced for intense pressure to give way if the IRA announces a truce within the next week.

The move by Labour leaders coincides with growing pressure on the Govern-

ment to avoid a high-profile clash with Sinn Féin leaders excluded from the talks.

Clive Soley, Labour MP for Hammer-smith, went further than Ms Mowlam in calling on ministers to accept the absence of IRA violence as a *de facto* ceasefire that would allow Sinn Féin into the talks. Mr Soley said on GMTV's *Sunday* that the move would help to "marginalise" hardline IRA elements. He pointed to Sinn Féin's success in achieving 15.47 per cent support in last week's Northern Ireland elections and said that it "indicates the strength of feeling." "I certainly think Sinn Féin has to be there," he said.

However, Ms Mowlam distanced herself from this view by making clear that the party's line was that the IRA would have to declare a ceasefire formally.



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Maggie's eagle eye sees off poachers

By LIN JENKINS

A BIRD of prey has come to the rescue of fishermen on a Norfolk lake where a colony of cormorants has been taking its pick of the bream, tench, carp and perch.

Owners of Fritton Lake Country Park applied two years ago for a licence to cull the birds but were turned down because they could not quantify the amount of fish being eaten. Scarecrows on boats floating down the lake and the use of bird scarers merely resulted in them moving their nests from one end to the other.

But the birds have now taken flight with the arrival of an American bald eagle called Margaret. The bird, named after the former Prime Minister for her ability to see off



Margaret, the 17-year-old American bald eagle, with her falconer Geoff Pearson

opponents without much show of effort, began flying over the lake three weeks ago. Chris Ash, the park manager, said: "It was not our original intention to use the bird to chase off the cormorants. She was being trained to take a more entertaining and dramatic role in our falconry display and we got his secondary benefit."

More than 200 birds nest around the water, damaging

not only fish stocks in the lake on Lord Somerleyton's 5,000-acre estate near Great Yarmouth but destroying trees as well. The 17-year-old eagle, which has a 7ft wingspan, has been in the falconry display at the country park for three years since she arrived from the display at Great Windsor Park, which has since been disbanded.

"She is quite a lazy bird and

Geoff Pearson, our new falconer, was keen to get her to work harder," Mr Ash said. She is one of 26 birds in the falconry display which demonstrate daily for visitors in the summer and also hunt prey on the estate.

"At present we only get 15 or 20 people a day fishing on the lake," Mr Ash said. "It does not get fished enough, apart from by cormorants, but we hope that will change."

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CONSERVATIVE

Prison Service backs US 'supermax' jail for high risk inmates

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A SUPER-SECURE jail to hold all Britain's most dangerous prisoners in one place has been recommended by the Prison Service in a move that marks an historic shift in policy.

Up to 300 high-risk prisoners and a further 200 volatile and psychotic inmates would be held in the jail, which would be modelled on American "supermax" prisons and cost more than £55 million. In an attempt to reduce staffing costs, the Prison Service has proposed allowing armed guards to patrol the perimeter fence, reducing the number needed.

The recommendation was made after months of study by a small team of Prison Service officials headed by Robin Halward, the former governor of Strangeways Prison in Manchester. The move to support the building of a single jail to hold the most dangerous offenders, such as Dennis Nilsen, who is believed to have killed up to 16

men at his flat in north London, and Donald Neilson, known as the Black Panther, was made after intense discussion.

Richard Tilt, Director-General of the Prison Service, said last month that officials would discuss with Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, how it would work. "It is certainly feasible. There are detailed arguments for and against. I think it is very, very finely balanced," he said.

Other official sources said that the recommendation marked a major change of culture within the Prison Service and placed great emphasis on the creation of personal contacts between offenders and the prison officers who guarded them.

Mr Howard is expected to make the final decision on whether to support the project later this year, but finding the money is a key consideration. The Government is likely to look to the private sector to build the jail, with the public

sector managing it. It is understood that ministers do not believe it would be acceptable to the public to have private security firms such as Group 4 or Premier Prisons in charge.

For the past 30 years violent inmates have been regularly moved between six jails: Whitemoor, in March, Cambridgeshire; Full Sutton, near York; Frankland near Durham; Wakefield; Long Lartin, Hereford and Worcester; and, until last year, Parkhurst on the Isle of Wight.

In 1966, Lord Mountbatten of Burma recommended that one maximum security prison should be built. The idea was rejected because of fears of disorder. Eighteen years later the Home Office Control Review Committee proposed having up to 400 inmates in one or two top-security jails.

Sir John Latham recommended a super-secure prison in his report into prison security following recent break-outs from Whitemoor and Parkhurst.



Alison Tutt, mammal recorder for Surrey, sitting converted tennis balls to trap the elusive harvest mouse

New balls serve to save our smallest mouse

By NICK NUTTALL

CONCERN about the welfare of one of Britain's smallest mammals has prompted naturalists to renew efforts to protect the elusive harvest mouse.

More than 11,000 tennis balls, mounted on bamboo poles, are being converted into humane traps and distributed to members of the Mammal Society to assess how the tiny rodents — which weigh about the same as a 20p piece — are faring alongside modern

farming methods. Gillie Sargent, development officer of the Mammal Society, said the research would give an idea of where in Britain the creatures were still living.

The last survey, carried out 20 years ago without the aid of tennis balls, indicated Britain had a breeding population of about 1½ million harvest mice, so called because they build ball-like nests in grasses and reeds which can become exposed at harvest time. They are known to be in southern England

and east of Yorkshire, with some colonies in Wales and others scattered elsewhere. But Pat Morris, chairman of the Mammal Society, said without a new survey it was impossible to say how the mice, *Microtus minutus*, had fared in the past two decades. "Harvest mice are so shy that few people ever see them."

The scheme, part of the society's Look Out for Mammals project, is backed by English Nature, the People's Trust for Endangered Species and Slatkanger, which has donated the tennis balls.

Firearms amnesty launched

Police forces begin a firearms amnesty today, running until June 30, under which all illegal guns can be handed in without fear of prosecution — provided that they have not been used in crimes. Most of the guns will be destroyed or melted down although rarer items may be offered to museums. A similar amnesty in 1988 netted 48,000 weapons and 1½ million rounds of ammunition.

Father sought

Martin Mintoff, 38, a cousin of Dom Mintoff, the former Prime Minister of Malta, was being sought at ports and airports after allegedly snatching his four-year-old son Matthew during a visit to his estranged wife Kathleen, who lives with the boy at Stockport, Greater Manchester.

Playground tents

Schools are being urged to provide tents in playgrounds during the summer to protect pupils from the sun. Dr David Harris, of the Whittington Hospital in Highgate, north London, claims in a letter to teachers that skin cancer in adulthood is strongly linked to sunburn in childhood.

Back on tour

The pleasures and hardships of the 18th-century Grand Tour are to be conjured up for modern art lovers at an exhibition. The Tate Gallery in London is to exhibit 265 relics from Italy, including the first loan of Vatican sculpture to Britain, from October 10 to January 5.

Woman mugged

A woman aged 37 was left with a suspected broken hip and wrist after she was assaulted and robbed on her way to church in Poole, Dorset. The attacker, in his twenties or thirties, pushed the woman to the ground before snatching her handbag and taking £2 and a diary.

Drive-by attack

Three people were taken to hospital after a shotgun was fired at them from a car in Sheffield. The driver shot at two women and a man twice before driving off on Saturday night. One of the women had to have surgery and the others were released after treatment.

Rare turtle freed

One of the biggest turtles ever seen off the British coast has been freed after being trapped in mooring lines. Details of the rare 10ft-long leatherback turtle, found at Coverack on the Lizard peninsula, Cornwall, are being sent to the Natural History Museum.

Covenient store

Carole Bennett, 48, wrote to Littlewood's to suggest the company opened one of its stores in a vacant unit at the Swan Centre mall in her home town, Eastleigh in Hampshire, and has now been invited to perform the opening ceremony in September.



Marley: died 15 years ago

Marley's ghost goes on record

THE late Bob Marley is to follow other pop legends by releasing a record from beyond the grave.

The Rastafarian, who died from cancer 15 years ago, is destined for the charts with a series of tracks recorded in the 1960s. His wife, Rita, and son Ziggy have added their voices to the remastered songs.

The album, *Soul Almighty*, has upset many Marley fans who believe it is not true to Marley's pure reggae music. Drum machines and electric guitars have been added to the raw songs to modernise them. Worse, according to some, is that there is a dance mix of the unreleased *What Goes Around Comes Around*.

The album has been put together by Danny Sims, who worked with Marley from 1967 to 1972 before the Wailers signed to Island Records.

The single *What Goes Around Comes Around* is already out and the album *Soul Almighty* will be released next Monday.

Thin line between fashion and shame



MEDICAL BRIEFING

MANY years ago, before homosexuality was admissible, a patient, a well-known actor now dead, told me that he was about to announce his engagement to a frail, but beautiful, woman. Referring to his fiancée's slender, child-like form, he said: "My agent and career demand that I get married and this is the nearest I could find to a boy."

The marriage didn't last. The recent outcry against the choice of thin juvenile women as models has emphasised the danger that this fashion poses to their contemporaries by triggering any latent tendencies they might have to become anorexic.

Although Giles Rees's threat, since withdrawn, to remove advertising of Omega watches from magazines which use immature models didn't mention it, he might well have suggested that the use of child-like figures might encourage paedophilic tendencies.

Nobody expects models to be as plump as those portrayed by Rubens but Mr Rees's preference for advertising by models with a more mature, fuller figure would have cheered many magazine

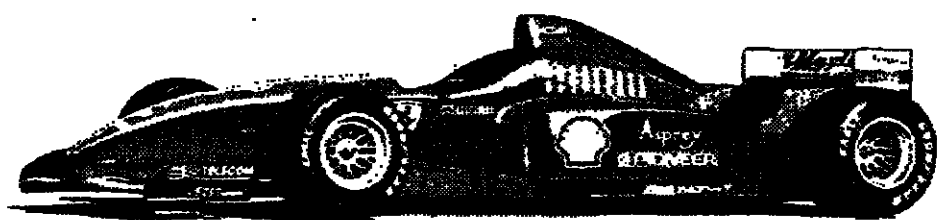
readers, parents and psychologists and now has support from doctors working in casualty departments as well as in psychiatric outpatients.

A recent survey published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* showed that being underweight in middle and older age, if a woman, was associated with an increase in the chance of sustaining a fractured hip, which might remove much of the statistical advantage in terms of longevity of being thin. A fractured hip is a common cause of death in older patients.

In the survey, more than 3,500 American women had any weight changes after the age of 50 plotted against their incidence of hip fractures. If a woman lost 10 per cent or more of her weight after middle age she was three times more likely to fracture her hip, whereas those who gained weight were less likely to sustain a fracture. Those women who were thin at 50, and despite this lost weight, were the most vulnerable to hip fractures.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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Suppressed report suggests possibility of link between dozen deaths and maltreatment in care

Council 'did more to protect rights of gays than children'

REPORTS BY DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE REPORT

BOYS were sexually abused when a council put its equal opportunities policy for homosexuals ahead of protecting children, according to the full unpublished report into one of Britain's worst care scandals.

The 300-page document says that employees of Clwyd County Council, which banned discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, had been unable to distinguish between homosexuality, paedophilia and child abuse.

Paedophiles were able to exploit this climate of confusion to attack children who had been entrusted to their care.

In another disturbing finding, boys under 16 were allowed to have sex with each other because staff believed they were freely expressing their homosexuality rather than being victims of abuse. One boy involved was aged under ten.

Public figures were suggested to have been involved in abusing young boys in North Wales. But an independent panel of experts, led by John Jillings, retired social services director for Derbyshire, decided that allegations involving famous names and paedophile

rings were beyond the remit of its report.

The document was commissioned by Clwyd but suppressed by councillors in one of their final acts before the authority was abolished under local government reorganisation in April. The report was withheld amid concern that the council would face legal action after its publication.

The abuse lasted for 20 years. At least 12 former residents of the county's children's homes have died, a figure which the report

describes as disturbing. Four hanged themselves, two took overdoses, one was unlawfully killed in a fire, one fell, one died of solvent abuse, another of alcohol abuse, one was found dead in a car and another died of a fit in his impoverished flat.

Of the 12 children who died, four had lived at Bryn Estyn, a council-run children's home in Wrexham, and four at Bryn Alyn, a private sector complex of homes mostly in Clwyd. The panel believes the possibility of a link between the deaths and maltreatment in care warrants serious consideration.

Since 1974, when Clwyd was created, there have been 51 disciplinary actions and 13 convictions of child care workers, alarming numbers, according to the panel.

Their report draws attention to Clwyd's equal opportunities policy in employment, which encompassed sexual orientation. It states: "The rights of employees and those of children need to be equally balanced and managed by senior officers and elected members. This does not seem to have been the case in Clwyd, with employees' rights taking precedence while children were sexually exploited under the guise of 'homosexual equali-



One of the homes run by Clwyd social services, known then as Bryn Estyn. Four of its residents have died

ty." A Clwyd source told *The Times* that the equal opportunities policy was open to abuse by paedophiles claiming they were being discriminated against on the grounds of being homosexuals.

The panel was alarmed by one children's home where some staff were unconcerned that boys were having sex together because they believed that children should be free to be gay. The possibility of a paedophile ring had been mentioned.

The report says: "In a police statement made by a 13-year old resident, he admitted that he had sexual contact with five different boys. He also said that they had all been willing parties to the contact. However in another statement made to police, the youngest boy involved, aged about eight or nine, clearly indicated that

he did not consent to the sexual contact that was taking place. "Two brothers must fall into the category of suspected victims of sexual abuse given allegations that the older boy regularly sexually assaulted his younger brother whilst resident in the unit," the report continues.

"Yet it appears that some of the division's child care staff remained convinced that the behaviour was an expression of homosexuality, freely chosen, and therefore that it constituted consensual activity — albeit under-age — and as such was not a matter for concern. This view seems to have been supported by at least one senior manager within the division," the report states.

Two of the boys were in contact with a former resident of another children's home who was believed to be involved in male prostitution.

Prominent names have been given to the police and the inquiry panel but the report leaves them out.

An internal social services inquiry such as that of the independent panel cannot hope to address successfully the wider areas of concern which we identified, having neither the resources nor the authority to do so," it states.

"Concern has been expressed in Clwyd over the possibility of links between some of the abusers, as well as the possible existence of a paedophile ring. Whilst it was recognised that this panel of investigation did not have the necessary powers to investigate these matters the County Council has throughout been in favour of a major public inquiry to be initiated by the

Welsh Office following the last of the trials, and including in its remit the task of considering links between paedophiles."

The unpublished report has become a political football between the Welsh Office and the small local authorities which succeeded Clwyd.

William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, has called on the councils to produce a timetable for publishing the document. He in turn has been urged to place a copy in the Commons library so MPs can quote it using parliamentary privilege. This would solve the problem of potential libel actions from individuals identified in the report, and would avoid the risk of the councils losing their insurance cover.

Mr Hague has so far resisted calls for a full inquiry into child abuse in North Wales.

A criminal investigation led to several young men being convicted of sexual offences while the owner of the premises was convicted of keeping a disorderly house and allowing a young female person to use the premises for unlawful sexual intercourse.

Police found that M's bedroom had no door, curtains, carpet or furniture. M slept on a thin mattress with a large hole and no bedding.

"There must be serious doubt as to whether some of the incidents described in M's case could be in any sense consensual," the report says. "One incident described M being tied to a mop handle, dragged upstairs and put in a bath of cold water."

Girl, 15, abused by several older men

A VICTIM

A FIFTEEN-year-old girl was allowed by Clwyd to live in a house where she slept on a bare mattress and had sex with older men. The child, labelled M in the report, had 13 social services staff involved in her case.

Her plight was highlighted to show how Clwyd was incapable of learning from its mistakes. Senior social services staff deemed that M had given her consent to sex and so was not a victim of abuse.

M had been in conflict with her parents and moved to live with a 23-year-old woman friend, J. Clwyd social services accommodated her at this address, provided financial support and apparently started the process of approving J as a foster parent.

The police became involved when they were asked to attend M at the local shopping precinct by one of her friends. M was taken to the police station where, in a very distressed state, she disclosed physical and sexual abuse.

The social services department failed to supply emergency accommodation for M, resulting in her having to spend a night in a police cell.

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Police insurance company solicitors tried to discourage inquiry

THE insurance company whose solicitors tried to discourage Clwyd County Council from holding a wide-ranging inquiry into child abuse also insured North Wales Police, some of whose officers were alleged to be among the abusers.

The Jillings Report cites a letter from the insurers' solicitors to Clwyd in November 1993 criticising statements that the council had badly let down children in its care. This followed the conviction of a man for sexually abusing boys in

care. "An expression of regret to a child who has suffered sexual abuse is often regarded as part of the healing process," the report says. "The independent panel would not like to think that such expressions of concern are to be condemned."

The insurers' solicitor wrote to Clwyd's county secretary on February 24, 1994: "We do not see why it is necessary to have such a wide-ranging inquiry. The police have conducted what has been described as the most extensive inquiry into

THE POLICE

child abuse ever carried out."

The Jillings report highlights criticism of North Wales Police for deciding to launch its own criminal investigation instead of calling in an outside constabulary.

Clwyd had consistently pressed the Chief Constable and the Minister of State at the Home Office to accept that it was inappropriate for North Wales Police to investigate

profoundly serious allegations by young people directed, in part, against members of the force.

The report quotes a letter from the Private Secretary to the Home Office to Clwyd on May 17, 1993, that the then Chief Constable of North Wales "has resisted the suggestion ... of HM Inspector of Constabulary that the appointment of an officer from outside the force would dispel any local disquiet about the objectivity of the investigation."

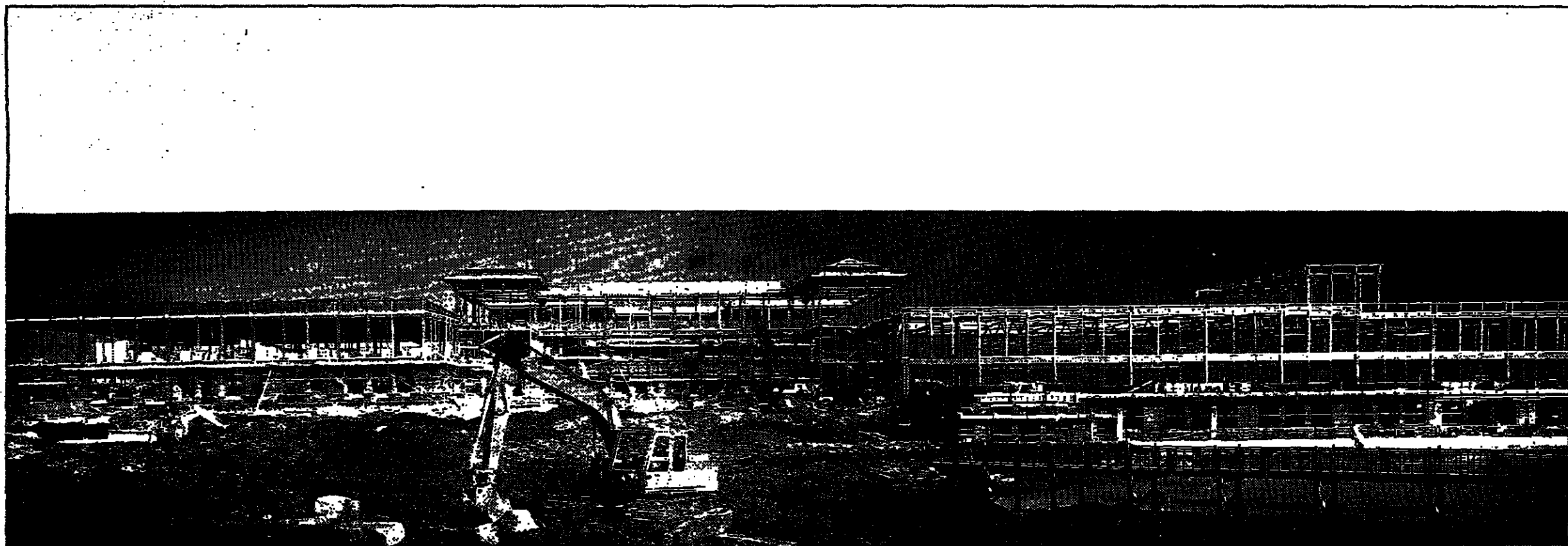
The panel asks William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, to answer its misgivings by ordering an inquiry with powers to compel agencies to explain their actions.

North Wales Police told *The Times*: "Regrettably the Jillings report is seriously flawed through many errors of fact, innuendo, false perceptions and general misunderstandings of procedure. Both the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Police Complaints Authority have publicly expressed their satis-

faction with the thoroughness, impartiality and professionalism of the North Wales Police investigation.

"Where police officers or ex-police officers featured in any allegation, however tenuous, files were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions and in the case of serving police officers also to the Police Complaints Authority."

The police said seven people were convicted following their investigation, not four as the Jillings Report states.



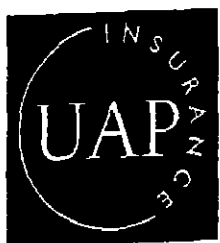
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FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

Yigal Bibi, one of nine deputies elected for the hard-

The price of support for Mr Netanyahu — himself a secular Jew — is also likely to

for June 12, and said the decision to go ahead would be left to Mr Netanyahu. But the new Cabinet is expected to defer the pullback and argue the issue should be subject to more negotiation.



FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

One of the leaders was Han Dongfang, the exiled leader of China's illegal trade unions, imprisoned in Peking after the crackdown and now forbidden re-entry to his own country. "These demonstrations will be forbidden after 1997," he said. "That will be

Ming Bai, a young teacher who now lives in Hong Kong, recalled the

Hong Kong's annual candlelight vigil on the night of June 4, which attracts tens of thousands, will be held in the colony's biggest inner-city space, Victoria Park, tomorrow night.

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN DELHI

It should win comfortably, supported by the Congress Party, which was routed in last month's general election. There is little chance of the Government lasting anything like a full term, however, given the conflicting objectives

It will wield a decisive influence and has insisted that the economic liberalisation programme introduced five years ago be continued intact.

H. D. Deve Gowda, the new Prime Minister, is committed to continuing the economic reforms but he will have to address concerns voiced by the Communists and others that the benefits are not reaching sufficient numbers of the poor. There is all-party agreement, however, on the principle of dismantling almost half a century of socialist economic policies, which made the State the biggest employer and the biggest owner of industry.

"I will stand by the reforms and I will sort out any differences with friendly parties."

Mr Gowda named a 21-member Cabinet, chosen to satisfy the main parties in the United Front, and kept the ministries of home, agriculture, atomic energy and science and technology for himself. The crucial post of Finance Minister went to P. Chidambaram, a respected figure who had helped to devise the economic reforms. His main task will be to

Mr Gowda, Chief Minister of the southern state of Karnataka, said after taking the oath of office at Rashtrapathi Bhavan, the presidential palace: "What we have done in Karnataka in 18 months shows our mind." The state is the second favourite location in India for foreign investors, after Gujarat, and Mr Gowda has been credited with its remarkable progress.

**FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT
IN SYDNEY**

The rallies came a day after about 70,000 gun supporters marched in Melbourne to protest at the laws, and the launch of a political party by

April in Tasmania.
The Darwin gunman, who went to the same school as Bryant, injured five people at the weekend.

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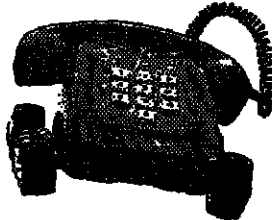
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Euro-sceptics court trouble with judgments of Luxembourg

As the beef war drags on and the battle over the 'an bogs down in the procedural complexities of qualified majority votes, cow culls and half-empty chairs, frustrated Euro-sceptics will turn their fire towards a more interesting target: the European Court of Justice.

For Tories hunting desperately for European issues which demonstrate that they can influence events and which help wrongfoot Labour, the EU court is a tempting target. Nobody would recognise any of the court's 16 judges in the street: they wear



funny hats which look like upside-down wastepaper baskets and work in Luxembourg. Last Friday, John Redwood referred to the institution as "a far-away court with way-out views".

With this diagnosis comes a prescription. It is high time, Mr Redwood said, that Parliament asserted its supremacy over the court, adding for good measure that Germany has already done just that. But Mr Redwood and others never reveal that Parliament can only assert such supremacy outside the EU. Well-read though Mr Redwood may be, he has failed to notice that the German supreme court has no general power to overrule the judges in Luxembourg. A look at the *Penguin Guide to*

EU Law will set him straight. The House of Commons, theoretically, has the power to stop Luxembourg court judgments in their tracks. MPs could repeal section 2.1 of the European Communities Act which enshrines Parliament's 1972 decision to allow the EU court certain powers over British law. Alternatively, they could pass a Bill like the one put up by Iain Duncan-Smith, the Tory MP, which simply declares that Parliament can stop any court decision it dislikes. Either way, the effect would be the same. "Cherry-picking" the

more desirable court judgments or blocking them altogether would amount to a frontal assault on the EU with a blunt instrument. The Union was built on rules which bind states.

Although its constitution has evolved as a highly-piggybacked hybrid, the court and its law were always the most purely federal element in the mixture. States which reject the legal order are pulling out of the club. As the EU judges have already informally warned one Euro-sceptic MP, a British govern-

ment obstructing the court will quickly be found to be breaking its obligations under the EU treaty. A political crisis between London and Brussels would follow.

The Cabinet's policy on the court remains quite different from what Mr Redwood wants. But the Cabinet's policy on the court and what Mr Redwood wants remain quite distinct. Informed by eminent critics of the court such as Professor Trevor Hartley, of the London School of Economics, and Sir Patrick Neill QC, the Government wants to reform it.

Loose treaty-drafting should be tightened. Judgments should be speeded up and government liabilities reduced. A long and ambitious shopping list, and not easy to obtain.

Mr Redwood said last Friday that we should "renegotiate our relationship with Europe". Threatening Commons legislation to defy the court would simply be the trigger for a breakdown between Britain and the rest of the EU. The rupture would allow Britain to confine its links with the EU to trade. Redwoodites are coy about

conceding that withdrawal is their aim, but that is where their logic leads.

Mr Redwood's inspiration for an anti-EU Act of Parliament turns out to be Henry VIII, whose *Act in Restraint of Appeals* in 1533 cut down the power of the Catholic Church's courts in England and declared the supremacy of Parliament.

The final result of that conflict is worth recalling. Before long, the English church cut all its ties with Rome.

GEORGE BROCK

Moscow likely to challenge Nato's expansion plans

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

YEVGENI PRIMAKOV, the Russian Foreign Minister, is expected to denounce Nato's plans to extend membership to Eastern Europe when he meets his Western counterparts in Berlin this week.

Moscow's continuing opposition to Nato expansion has now become such a sensitive issue, particularly with the Russian presidential elections due in two weeks, that alliance foreign ministers meeting in Berlin today are anxious to avoid any confrontation with Mr Primakov.

The Russian Foreign Minister is meeting the Nato ministers as part of the special deal agreed with Moscow, referred to as the "16 plus one arrangement", when security policy issues affecting Russia and the West are discussed.

Nato foreign ministers want to focus the discussion on the shared peacekeeping operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Russian troops are deployed in the north under the tactical command of an American general.

However, Mr Primakov knows that under present planning, Nato governments are expected to announce the next stage of the alliance's expansion plan in December and countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic could be Nato members before the end of the century.

Last week President Yeltsin declared in his election manifesto that Russia wanted a real partnership with the United States and Western Europe, but that this could be harmed by Nato's expansion plans.

When Mr Primakov raises

the matter in Berlin, Nato will reaffirm the pledge that enlargement will be a transparent process, containing no surprises and with no intention of creating new dividing lines in Europe.

Nato officials are still working on the so-called *Wto and When* report, which will outline in general terms which countries are likely to be eligible for membership and a broad timetable for enlargement. This will follow the *How and Why* report which last year explained Nato's strategy for inviting more members to join the Western alliance.

Fifteen countries have now held individual sessions with Nato, seeking more information on the alliance's proposals. Not all of them are potential future members but the high number of interested nations has underlined that there is now a steady momentum towards Nato enlargement. Moscow will have certainly taken note of this development.

The 15 countries include Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

Nato is not expected to declare the front-runners in December but the way ahead will become clearer. Next year, provided the relevant countries have done enough to democratise their armies and defence ministries, and can show they will contribute to the alliance, not just reap the security benefits, Nato will have to tell Moscow that a number of its former allies

have been approved for eventual membership of the Western alliance.

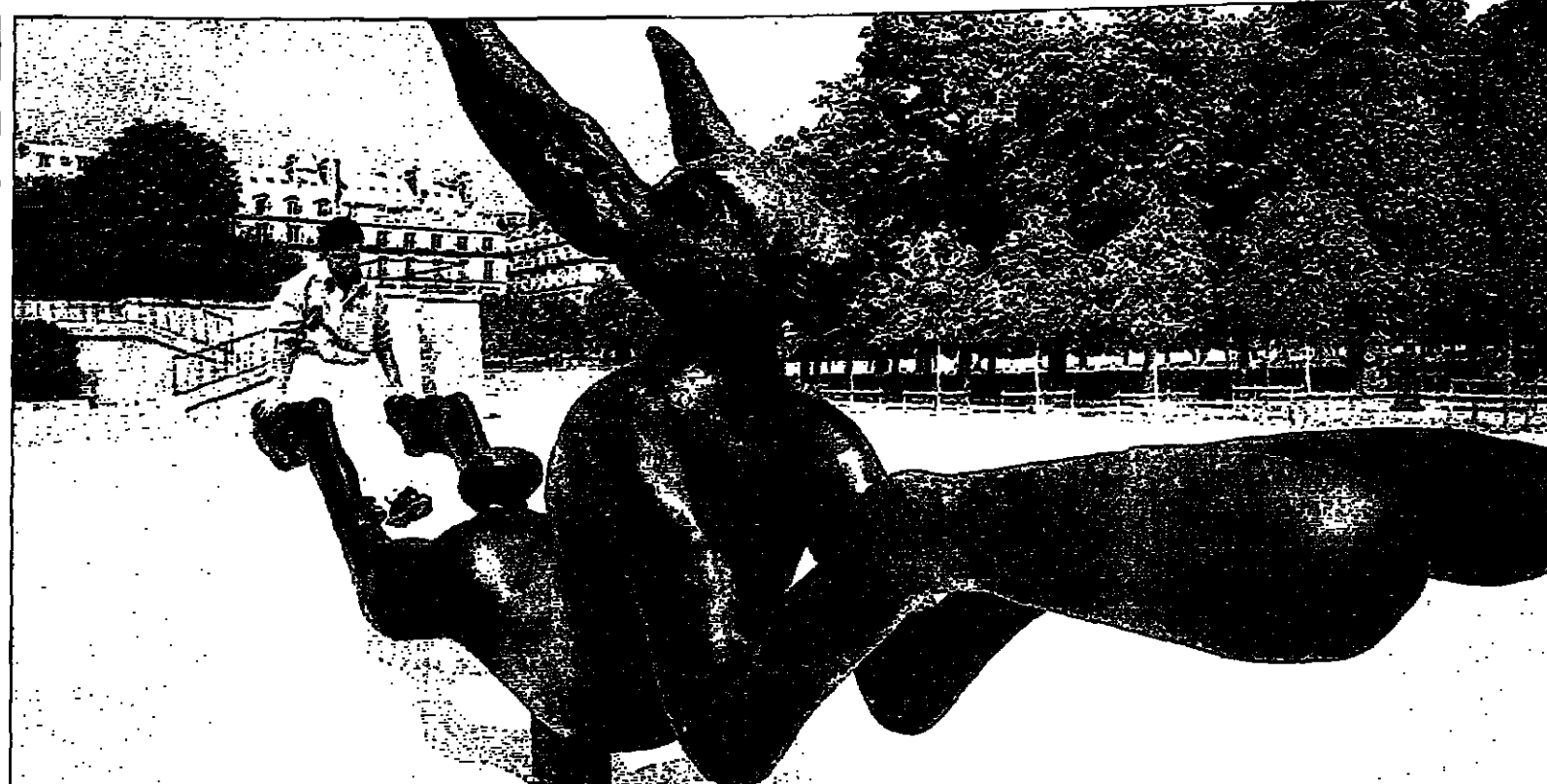
If Mr Yeltsin wins the presidential election, Nato expansion might not remain such a potentially volatile issue. But at today's meeting in Berlin and up to the June election, Moscow is expected to remain bitterly opposed to the idea.

In Berlin, however, every attempt will be made by the Nato foreign ministers to play down the disagreement with Moscow over expansion and to highlight other areas that are less controversial, such as the alliance's reforms and its achievements in Bosnia in implementing the Dayton peace accord.

Javier Solana, the Secretary-General of Nato, said yesterday that the alliance had all but completed a plan that reshapes the organisation for new challenges in the post-Cold War era.

The foreign ministers will approve the new combined joint task forces scheme under which assets of Nato can be used by European members, possibly acting under the aegis of the Western European Union, to carry out peacekeeping and disaster relief operations.

Although there are no plans to replace the Nato force in Bosnia with WEU troops at the end of the year, when the alliance mission is due to end, it is now accepted that a reduced force of some kind will have to remain in the territory to ensure that the ethnic groups do not revert to war.



A visitor to the Tuileries Gardens in Paris swinging on *Jumping Rabbit*, by Barry Flanagan, part of a new exhibition of British sculpture

Athens tries to mend Turkey ties

FROM RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON IN ATHENS

WHEN the Turkish Government learnt recently that Athens proposed to take foreign journalists in a frigate around the disputed Aegean islets, it immediately lodged objections and organised a rival tour to show journalists how the islets looked from the Turkish side.

The incident, typical of the suspicion marking relations between the two countries, did not, this time, lead to the verge of hostilities as a similar journalists' tour did in January. One reason is that in the six months since his election, Costas Simitis, the Greek Prime Minister, has decided that the nationalist brinkmanship of the past could lead to disaster, and has shown a determination to mend the fences battered by his predecessor, Andreas Papandreu.

Mr Simitis has used quiet diplomacy to improve Greece's relations with its Balkan hinterland, repair relations with the European Union, play down Greek animosity to the newly independent former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, and step back from confrontation with Turkey.

"Nationalism is out of time and out of place," he said, insisting that Greece was ready to take its dispute with Ankara over Imia, an uninhabited Dodecanese islet, to the International Court of Justice. He called for a similar Turkish move, criticising what he said were bullying tactics by Ankara but making it clear that Greece was ready to

accept arbitration. Mr Simitis was attacked by the Opposition soon after coming to office for what it called his lack of resolve in defending Greek interests over the Imia incident. But he said the islands could prosper when they had closer relations with the Turkish coast. "This is not the age of nationalism, of wars, of fights for four square miles. If Turkey has a claim, it should go to the International Court," he added.

The outcome of the Imia dispute will have important repercussions for any resolution on the other main bone of contention between Greece and Turkey: Cyprus.

Mr Simitis made it clear that although Greece does not regard sovereignty in the Ae-

gean as negotiable, he saw no place for the strident nationalist posture taken by his predecessor. "Mr Papandreu has practically left politics. We must adapt party policies because we need no more leaders of this type. Democratic processes must be learnt."

He said good relations with Turkey led to good business, and Greece was keen to develop them. However, other Greek Government members were less conciliatory. Theodore Pangalos, the Foreign Minister, accused Turkey of being an empire with an imperial state of mind. He criticised the European Union for trying to "brush aside Greek-Turkish relations in order to give money to the Turks".

Archbishop wanted on fraud charges

Madrid: Italian magistrates ordered the arrest of the Archbishop of Barcelona, Cardinal Ricardo Maria Carles Gordo, on charges of money-laundering and "complicity in trafficking foreign exchange" (Tunku Varadarajan writes). The charges emerged from a major police investigation into fraud.

Volcano erupts

Rome: Stromboli, a volcano that forms a tiny Sicilian island, blasted out thick smoke and lava stones, sending dozens of tourists fleeing down its slopes, officials reported. (AP)

Time out

Philadelphia: Firemen used special cutting tools to free Landon Garcia, three, who was locked in a bank vault after wandering in moments before it was time-locked for the weekend. (AFP)

Fatal attraction

Los Angeles: An enormous sea lion weighing 1,800lb has become America's most wanted marine mammal after suffocating up to 50 females of its species while trying to mate with them.



Sir David: formidable

Doyen of diplomacy dispatched to broker Cyprus deal

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

BRITAIN, spurred by the "night-marish" possibility of a divided Cyprus entering Europe, is sending one of its most accomplished diplomats to the former colony today to spearhead London's most determined effort to crack the island's long-running problem.

Sir David Hannay, 60, a former British Ambassador to the United Nations, will be followed in coming months by a stream of other high-

level envoys from the United States, Europe and the UN as the international community launches a concerted diplomatic summer offensive. He was plucked from retirement last month to become Britain's first special representative in Cyprus and has a reputation as a formidable diplomat whose patrician air only accentuates his steeliness.

"He is a powerful, straight-talking diplomat," said a European diplomat in Nicosia. "I suppose you could call him Britain's answer to Richard Holbrooke [the American envoy who

brokered the Bosnian peace accord]. But little progress is expected while Turkey, a key player with 35,000 troops in northern Cyprus, is beset by renewed political instability: its right-wing coalition Government is teetering on the brink of collapse.

In Nicosia, Sir David will hold separate talks with President Clerides and Rauf Denktaş, the septuagenarian leaders of the rival Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. The two men are veteran sparring partners who have not

talked directly for nearly two years. But new elements have emerged that have convinced many that there may be a new opportunity to end the island's cold war which has bogged down UN peacekeepers, many of them British, for more than three decades. The most important is Cyprus's looming accession to the EU, which could take place as early as 2000. Accession talks are due to begin early in 1998.

"It is the first time the Cyprus problem has had a deadline of sorts — by 2000 we must at least have

progress towards a settlement," said a European diplomat. Cyprus has been divided since 1974 when Turkish troops invaded and occupied the northern third after a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Athens.

Both sides have long accepted UN proposals to reunite the island under a bizonal federation. But the exact nature of that federation and sovereignty, territory, security guarantees and the return of refugees have bedevilled intercommunal negotiations for nearly two decades.

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Pressure to oust Karadzic mounts

FROM PETER CAPELLA
IN GENEVA

FURTHER pressure was yesterday being brought to bear on President Milosevic of Serbia by the United States and its European allies in an attempt to remove Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, from power before elections scheduled for mid-September.

The Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian Presidents were expected last night to endorse a document committing themselves to key elements of the Dayton peace agreement after a series of meetings here with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State.

Diplomats indicated that the document would not name Mr Karadzic, or the Bosnian Serb military leader, General Ratko Mladic. They believed the key to sidelining the two men was in the hands of President Milosevic.

Mr Christopher said the Bosnian Serb leaders should be put on trial at the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. American officials said they were concerned about Serbia's overall lack of co-operation with the investigation. Several indicted men are believed to be living in Belgrade.

"Serbia is in violation of the Dayton peace accords on war crimes," Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman, said. "The rhetoric has been positive, but the actions have been negative." Mr Burns added that the elections should not be held hostage by the Bosnian Serb leadership.

The document was expected to concentrate on three main points ahead of the elections: co-operation with the War Crimes Tribunal, free movement around Bosnia and access to the media. All the parties accepted that polling could not be held in ideal conditions.

"It would not be possible in the next few years to hold pristine, Western European-style elections," Mr Burns said.

Berisha offers poll rerun after West's attack on rigging

AS ALBANIA voted in a second round of elections marred by violence and fraud, President Berisha yesterday admitted that there had been irregularities and "unfair results". In an interview with *The Times*, he offered to diffuse the national crisis and meet Western concerns by re-running the polls "wherever it is necessary".

However, Dr Berisha did not specify whether the number of contested elections would amount to the "partial rerun" demanded by the European Union and the United States. So far the electoral commission has ordered a rerun in four seats. But the Europeans and the Americans warned Dr Berisha over the weekend that Albania's relations with the West would "suffer" if democratic norms were not observed.

Speaking in the well-guarded presidential palace, Dr Berisha denied Albania was reverting to authoritarian rule or that he had developed dictatorial habits. He predicted that the Socialist opposition (the former Communists), who marked yesterday's voting with boycotts and hunger strikes, would enter parliament "within six months" to take up the seats they won in the first round a week ago but renounced because of ballot-box fraud.

"Some of them have already been in touch with me and are changing their minds," Dr Berisha said. The Socialists are sending delegates to the European Parliament today to press for a complete rerun of the vote. But diplomats said the opposition was as much to blame for the chaos as the Government.

Dr Berisha's ruling Democratic Party won 95 seats in the first round and the Socialists only five. Nine constituencies were at stake yesterday with a further 25 decided by proportional representation. The turnout was low, with only the Democrats and a handful of right-wing groups taking part.

The President, 51, appeared beleaguered and under strain. A dapper former heart surgeon, who led the liberal opposition to the despotic Communist regime as it tottered in 1990, he is admired for his efforts to bring democracy



The President of Albania denies he is a dictator but says he cannot work miracles in just four years, writes Richard Owen in Tirana

and a market economy to his impoverished and backward country since coming to power in 1992. He has also helped secure the Dayton peace accord by keeping the lid on tensions in Serb-controlled Kosovo, which is 90 per cent ethnic Albanian.

He has been deluged with criticism at home and abroad after Democratic officials allegedly stuffed ballot boxes to achieve the two-thirds majority Dr Berisha needs to reform the constitution and strengthen the ban on political activity by former officials of the Communist regime (the "genocide law").

The Socialists point out that Dr Berisha was also a Communist, although he says he was always "viewed with suspicion" by Enver Hoxha, the paranoid Communist dictator. The Socialists accuse the President of ordering police to crack down on opposition protests last Tuesday in Tirana's Skanderbeg Square. They have vowed to repeat the protest tomorrow.

Dr Berisha said Albania had "passed the test of history" by overthrowing the Hoxha regime, but he could not achieve miracles in only four years. Democratic values had



Berisha: alleges ballot fraud by opponents

"to come from within. Albanian democracy cannot go as smoothly as cutting butter, but it never was and never will be under threat."

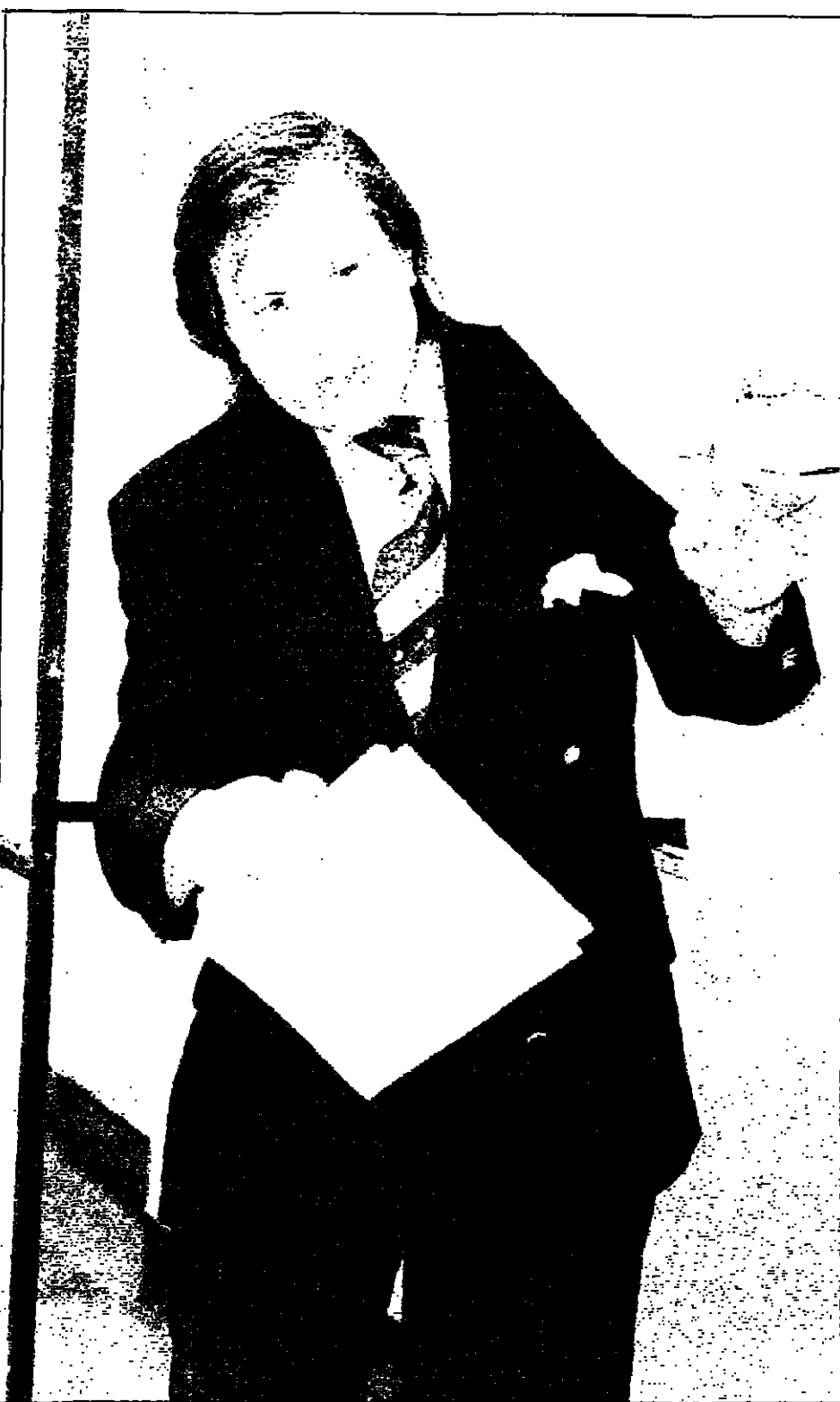
The President said there had been "tensions and irregularities" at the polling stations. But Socialist activists had been caught filling in polling returns the night before the vote. When this "trick" failed, he said they withdrew from the election three hours before the polls closed.

"I have never heard of such a thing before," he declared. "Even the Khmer Rouge did not behave like that in Cambodia. It was an insult to democracy, to the electorate and to the principle of free voting. It was a betrayal of the people, who nonetheless continued to vote. I'm proud to say the turnout was 89 per cent."

Dr Berisha said there had been incidents involving "armed people" at the polling stations. But Albania did not have enough trained police to go round, and it took a long time to "develop democratic procedures like those in Britain". Not a single voter had made a formal complaint against uniformed or plainclothes police, he said.

The President admitted that police had overreacted on Skanderbeg Square, but said the Socialists had been told their security could not be guaranteed and had demonstrated in defiance of a police ban. He regretted that opposition leaders and foreign journalists had been beaten, but said all incidents were being investigated. "I have to accept that I cannot expect a British-style police force in four years."

He said the election chaos and the opposition boycott would not affect Albania's pro-market and pro-Western orientation. "We want to join the West, and we will keep going in that direction until we have our place in Europe," Dr Berisha said.



Ilie Nastase emerging from a polling booth after casting his ballot yesterday

Nastase set for mayoral win

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

ILIE NASTASE, the former tennis star, was poised yesterday to beat 46 others in the race for Mayor of Bucharest.

But the Romanian millionaire and former playboy may not secure the 51 per cent vote to win on the first ballot. A run-off will be held on June 16. Mr Nastase was among the first of the candidates to vote yesterday. "I feel quite confident. I look forward to helping

put Bucharest on the international map," he said.

Mr Nastase said he hoped to bring "much-needed foreign investment and a positive image" to the capital, plagued by poverty, rising unemployment and an image of Aids and orphans. His campaign, under the slogan "An honest man", is supported by the ruling Social Democratic Party. To appeal to the youth vote,

he promised to bring pop stars such as Michael Jackson and Jon Bon Jovi to Romania.

Victor Ciorbea, his closest rival, from the Democratic Convention, accused him of being "a mere front for a neo-communist government". He said Mr Nastase dined well in Paris, where he has a home, while Romanians fought to overthrow Nicolae Ceausescu, the Stalinist dictator.

Chechen accord at risk as fighting resumes

FROM RICHARD BRESTON
IN MOSCOW

THE peace initiative in Chechnya, a key component of President Yeltsin's re-election platform, was in deep trouble at the weekend after clashes between Russian troops and Chechen rebels shattered a fragile truce.

With only two weeks to go before the Russian presidential elections, the agreement to halt fighting, free prisoners and demilitarise the war-torn republic appeared to be in tatters after both sides accused each other of violating the terms of the deal.

In the single worst incident, four Russian soldiers were killed and five injured after their armoured personnel carrier was hit by a remote-controlled mine in Grozny, the Chechen capital, yesterday morning. On Saturday, the day the peace accord was supposed to go into effect, 26 Russian troops were captured southwest of the capital. Their fate was still being negotiated yesterday.

"I state with full responsibility that I will order troops to destroy, resolutely and with hatred, all those bandit groups who do not want peace," said General Vyacheslav Tikhonov, the Russian commander in Chechnya. For their part, the Chechen rebel leadership

St Petersburg: Turnout was low yesterday as voters in Russia's second city went to the polls to elect a mayor in a litmus test of public opinion before the presidential election. The incumbent, Anatoli Sobchak, whose supporters back President Yeltsin nationally, was challenged by Vladimir Yakovlev, a virtual unknown who is allegedly pro-Communist. (AFP)

claimed that the Russians had provoked them by massing troops around the rebel stronghold of Shali, arresting ten Chechens and threatening to attack. In a statement issued by their defence council, the separatists warned that unless a final agreement on the withdrawal of Russian forces from Chechnya was completed within a week, the guerrillas would respond with "adequate measures".

Latest opinion polls published at the weekend showed the Russian leader consolidating his lead over his only serious challenger, Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader. The poll by the CESSI institute, published in the *Moscow Times* newspaper on Saturday, showed President Yeltsin with a comfortable 32.6 per cent and Mr Zyuganov with 19.7 per cent.

However, a renewed crisis in Chechnya could lose the Kremlin leader the crucial support of the remaining undecided voters. Yesterday efforts were underway to get the peace talks back on track and bring the Russians and Chechen rebels to the negotiating table for a meeting scheduled this week in the neighbouring republic of Ingushetia.

Czech voters lose confidence in Klaus market reforms

BY ROGER BOYES

VACLAV KLAUS, the Czech Prime Minister and the most determined free marketer in post-communist Europe, seemed yesterday to have lost his parliamentary majority after a surprisingly large number of voters opted for a softer version of reform.

Mr Klaus made a rather dazed appearance yesterday after initial counts indicated his centre-right coalition had won only 99 of 200 seats. Mr Klaus — a Euro-sceptic disciple of Margaret Thatcher — had been tipped to win the election, held on Friday and

Saturday. Under Mr Klaus's policies, the Czech Republic had bucked the trend in Central and Eastern Europe towards the return to power of post-communist parties.

Mr Klaus's Civic Democratic Party remains the largest with almost 30 per cent of the vote. But his junior coalition partners — the Civic Democratic Alliance and the Christian Democrats — were battered badly. The second-largest party were the opposition Social Democrats under Milos Zeman, an economist. They won around 26 per cent

of the vote and 30 seats in the new parliament. The Communist Party — still, essentially, a collection of true-believing socialists — emerged as the third largest with 10.3 per cent, which translates into 23 seats. The far-right Republicans — fighting on a virulent anti-foreigner platform — scored their best result and captured 18 seats.

The most likely outcome is an early new election. Mr Klaus could in the meantime come to an understanding with the Social Democrats and rule with a minority.

UN plans for world of the megacity

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN ISTANBUL

ARCHITECTS, planners, government ministers and Third World lobbyists today begin the most ambitious conference yet convened on how to curb the growth of cities and stop the future megalopolis of 20 million people collapsing into squalor, poverty, crime, disease and homelessness.

Habitat II, the ten-day United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, will offer developing countries, overwhelmed by the rush to big cities, blueprints on how to provide cheap and safe housing, clean water, jobs and a habitable environment. The latest figures show there are about 500 million urban homeless, and that over the next 30 years urban populations will double to five billion.

Opening the conference, Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, will tell ministers from more than 150

nations gathered here that housing is a basic human need. The world's urban population is growing more than twice as fast as the rural population, and disease and poor sanitation in sprawling slums are killing ten million people a year.

Wally N'Dow, the conference secretary-general, said that in the next 25 years, Cairo, Lagos, Shanghai, Bombay, Jakarta and Mexico City would be most at risk from inadequate drinking water and sewage systems. He said even cities in richer countries, such as Cardiff, Houston, Warsaw and Tel Aviv, will face shortages.

The UN estimates that more than a billion people now cannot get clean drinking water. Every day two million tons of human excrement and an increasing volume of untreated industrial effluents pollute urban water supplies.

Water-borne diseases kill four million children a year.

The conference, 20 years after the first Habitat gathering in Vancouver, will call on all countries to make housing and sanitation a priority. For the first time it lays less emphasis on state intervention and urges governments to form partnerships with the private sector. It insists that non-governmental organisations have key roles to play in planning cities.

The draft communiqué does not condemn urbanisation, noting that even slum-dwellers are still better off than the rural poor. Britain and America, among most Western nations, do not want any language that links improvements in Third World megacities to financial obligations by them.

Leading article, page 21

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North sabotages Republican bid for Senate seat

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

OLIVER NORTH, the controversial figure at the heart of the Iran-Contra scandal, returned to haunt the Republican establishment yesterday when he abandoned his official neutrality in the Virginia Senate race and denounced the party's candidate a week before the state primary.

In a vitriolic speech to thousands of cheering activists in Salem, Mr North accused John Warner, the patrician senator once married to Elizabeth Taylor, of an "unconscionable" and "blasphemous" betrayal of the former Marine Lieutenant-Colonel's own unsuccessful attempt at the Senate in 1994.

"Whose side are you on?" demanded Mr North of the Warner campaign as he endorsed Jim Miller, the radical former Budget Director for President Reagan. No Republican senator for Virginia has ever before faced a challenge from within his party, but two

years ago Mr Warner did what many conservatives considered was the ultimate act of treachery: he refused to support Mr North's bid to unseat Charles Robb, Virginia's Democratic Senator.

Although Mr Warner has the support of the party establishment, including Bob Dole, the presidential nominee, George Bush, the former President, and General Colin Powell, a Virginia resident, the Right has been waiting to exact its revenge.

The Christian Coalition, the National Rifle Association and other hard-core activists had been hoping that Mr North, now a populist radio talk-show host, would back Mr Miller. In a single stroke, he has now altered the dynamic of this year's race, brought a much-needed injection of funds to the impoverished Miller campaign and effectively cast it as a sequel to his own candidacy. Hugging Mr

Miller on stage, he said: "We need a senator who's going to put principle above politics. We need a senator who is going to back our party and every nominee at every level."

Mr North brought the Reagan Administration to its knees after his role in the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages scandal. He admitted he had lied to Congress. In 1991, a conviction against him was overturned on a technicality.

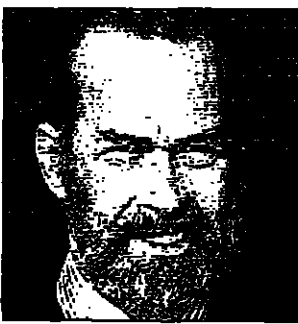
Notes missing: Days after claiming that all legal documents relating to the "Travelgate" affair had been handed over to Congress, the White House has admitted that certain notes are missing (Tom Rhodes writes). The notes provide a record of a meeting two years ago between presidential aides and members of the Justice Department and General Accounting Office which involved the firings of seven staff of the White House travel office in 1993.



Prince Michael of Kent and pop singer Gary Barlow had an unscheduled air stop at Baffin Island when a fellow passenger had a heart attack

Jet stranded among Eskimos

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK



A VIRGIN Atlantic jumbo jet made an emergency landing in one of the remotest parts of Canada, giving passengers, including Prince Michael of Kent, an unexpected taste of the Arctic wilderness.

The London to Los Angeles Flight 007 was four hours old when an American passenger had a heart attack. The pilot made at once for the nearest airport: tiny Iqaluit on Baffin Island, 1,000 miles north of Montreal and a place where reindeer roam but humanity maintains an uncertain grip on the chilled, treeless land.

The Boeing 747 made a safe landing, but when taxiing to a

halt its wing struck a fuel pipe and was too badly damaged to permit continuing to Los Angeles.

The accident was put down to the fact that big jetliners are rarely seen at Iqaluit and the airport ground staff may have misjudged the size of the plane. The nearest standby plane was half a day away, so the 368 passengers had little option but to alight and acquaint themselves with a region explored in 1576 by Sir Martin Frobisher and 40 years later by William Baffin.

Prince Michael managed to get himself on to a small commuter plane which was

departing for Montreal. There was no such option for the other Virgin passengers, who included the pop singer Gary Barlow of Take That, so they wrapped themselves in blankets to stave off the Arctic winds and headed for the hotspots of Iqaluit (population: 3,700 — mostly Inuits, or Eskimos). The sun did not set until after 11pm, so there was plenty of time to look around.

While the heart attack victim was rushed to a local hospital, the other passengers visited the Pizza Igloo restaurant, stared at the icescape, played house-house and watched reindeer.

The local radio station used its initiative and invited some of the passengers on to a talk show. Paul Colella, a passenger from Scottsdale, Arizona, said: "The local were wonderful. All four blocks of them."

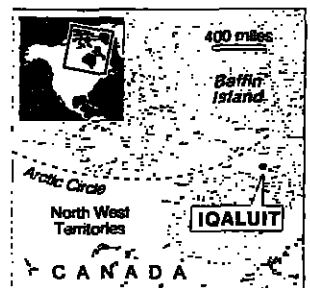
Rhonda Sampson, an Iqaluit emergency services worker, said yesterday: "We get a few Hercules transporter planes here, but never jumbos. This will be something to tell the grandchildren about." She added that the Royal Bank had set up an emergency exchange and that the local traders were "very happy" at

the extra business which had fallen their way.

Iqaluit residents were yesterday still amusing themselves with the memory of the Virgin refugees walking down the main street wrapped in the bright airline blankets.

The town's barracks provided beds for passengers who wanted to rest and other passengers were offered accommodation by townfolk. Davidee Joamie, supervisor of the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, set up a fizzy drinks stand and opened his games room. "It was like local pay-day," he said.

After 15 hours a chartered jet took the passengers away, flying to New York where connections to Los Angeles were made.



Weight watch sinks lifeguard hopefuls

BY QUENTIN LETTS

AS SUMMER finally arrived on America's East Coast, a third of New York's beaches were closed because lifeguards were found to be unfit, overweight and slow in the water.

In marked contrast to the muscular image of lifeguards in *Baywatch*, several were unable to sprint down a beach without running out of breath. A new test for lifeguards resulted in several being told that unless they diet and take new training courses, they have no place atop the high beach chairs on which lifeguards sit during the summer.

New York's Parks Department, which imposed the test, said it may not immediately be able to hire the 825 lifeguards considered necessary to supervise the area's beaches. Sec-

tions of beach on Coney Island and Brighton Beach were sealed off owing to the manpower shortage. If sufficient numbers of lifeguards cannot be found, the beaches will be patrolled by police officers who will advise swimmers where not to go.

Would-be lifeguards were asked to swim 70 yards in 35 seconds, but many failed. One unsuccessful applicant complained that the standards were unduly high. "Next they'll be asking us to swim the English Channel," he said.

Lifeguard jobs are coveted for the outdoor life they offer, plus the adulation of beach "babes". The tests suggest, however, that some of the musclemen who seek to fill the jobs may not be as athletic as their biceps suggest.

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هكذا من الأصل

Alzheimer's: the carers' story

The personality starts to disappear and with it the humanity and the soul, leaving as if in mockery only the body to breathe and be fed

RICHARD EYRE



I came downstairs to find Ma fiddling with the wireless. "Shall I put on the news?" I asked. "No, darling. I'm trying to get off."

PHYLLIDA LAW



هكذا من الأصل

When she was 52 my mother fell downstairs on her head carrying my sister's daughter. The baby, who was two at the time, was unharmed, but my mother fractured her skull. The fracture healed and at first it seemed as if the only further damage was to my mother's nervous system. She lost her sense of smell and her sense of taste and, naturally enough, her skill and enthusiasm for cooking.

But then, little by little, other things dropped away. She started to forget her previous sentence halfway through the new one, and she would stare speculatively at her knife and fork as if unsure of their use.

She started to cry in frustration when she forgot how to write the M in her Christian name, Minna; and when she took my daughter, aged four, to the village shop, a journey of a few hundred yards, my wife thought it safer to follow them as the two set off hand in hand, chatting simultaneously, uncertain who was leading whom.

For a while it seemed as if her behaviour was a painful plea for attention, and with the arrogance of self-interest I constructed a rational cause for her illness. I wanted it to be a psychological disorder rather than a corrosive physical decay of the brain. I wanted to believe that there was a reason for it that she had been ignored and rejected by my father.

I wanted her illness to serve my cause, but when I opened a door for her and she stared at the door, then at the doorway, and asked me with undisguised terror, "Which side do I go?" I knew she was losing her mind, and that there was no one to blame except God.



Richard Eyre's mother

Alzheimer's disease is a terrible illness. If there is a physical disease it resembles it is leprosy, which eats away the body as Alzheimer's does the brain. The first signs are a loss of short-term memory, but forgetfulness, non sequiturs and vagueness give way to loss of bodily control, as if the brain can no longer remember what to tell the body.

The personality starts to disappear, and with it the humanity and the soul, leaving, as if in mockery, only the body to breathe and be fed.

The disease is spun out with a malicious cruelty, in my mother's case for ten years after it was diagnosed. Before that she was said to be suffering from "senile dementia"; it was the same thing by any name — she was old before her time.

For years she was losing her mind, and for years death seemed ashamed to approach her. Little by little she was slipping away, and we never knew when to say goodbye.

For a while she was living at home but it became impossible to look after her properly. She had bouts of terrifying rage, followed by incoherence, followed by blankness, followed by clear breaks of

sanity that were more frightening to her than anything that had preceded them.

Her heartland was London, the world of her childhood, and when her mind became disordered she longed for that heartland as if her life, or her sanity, depended on it. "Please, please, please, please... take me home... take me back to my mother... my friends... take me to London... let me go in a train... please, please, please, please..."

There was a silence, an absence of words and a despair so deep that it almost seemed as if her breath were speech, then a sigh: "I think I am dying." But for years she lived on in the hospital, lying on the floor in a foetal position on a beanbag. No sight, no hearing, no sense at all. She breathed and ate and wasted away. I would sit with her, with my hand on her forehead, year after year. She seemed inexpressibly lonely, but she'd seemed like that even before she lost her mind.

Grief became muted over the years, but I never lost the distress of things unsaid. There are those who leave us without our detaining them; we have said all there is to say. It wasn't so with her: there was a continent of regret and guilt. I can still hear her voice, even though it's hard to remember her face as it was before she lost her mind. I can still see her hand, bony like a claw, plucking at her face, as if she was surprised that it was still there.

When I was a small boy I'd sit by her dressing-table to watch her as she did her make-up. "I'm putting on my face," she'd say. When she died her body was like a child's.

● Richard Eyre is director of the National Theatre

I have been told that the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia can be confirmed after death only by examining thin slices of the brain. It's a horrid thought, but I hope someone, somewhere is doing a lot of slicing.

Senile dementia, pre-senile dementia, Alzheimer's... whatever. It matters little to the carer. The patient is what is known as "confused". That is a euphemism.

My mother was always a delightful source of batty stories, with the glorious gift of enjoying her own mistakes. She would put a packet of tights in the fridge and find the bacon in her underwear drawer among presents bought for last Christmas.

A very long time ago, I forgot where I'd parked the car and in a private panic threw out all our aluminium cooking pans. (Aluminium at that time was thought to be one possible culprit.) When we still have our wits about us, we can transform such episodes into high comedy, and use it to aerate the mundane and deflect our family's irritation.

Then my mother began to phone the neighbours, sometimes at 3am, but they were fond of her and she seemed, they said, "in great form".

It was when she started serving raw potatoes and breakfast at midnight that I really took matters seriously, and we had lovely local help. Then one morning when I had driven back to London, my stepfather rang and said:

"Things have become intolerable here." I could hear my mother in the background saying she couldn't go to bed because of the crowds of people on the stairs, and where was the basin because it wasn't in the bathroom.

I suppose she died about five years later, two years after my stepfather. I kept notes. Some funny, some not. One day I have written the single word "agony" in block letters. On May 22, 1992 I wrote: "Had a good howl this morning. I am a useless nurse." May 25, another howl. "Can't cope with confusion. Need to be more creative about it." May 26, "Good day. Megsie sat in garden this am in her curlers to dry her hair, charmingly got up in nightie and dressing gown. Suddenly she asked what time it was. 12 o'clock. I said, 'Take my curlers out,

dear. I have a feeling George wants us all in church.' Feel slightly faint. Who is George?"

June 6: "Came downstairs to find Ma fiddling with her wireless. Shall I put on the news?" I asked. "No, darling. I'm just trying to get a bit of toast." July 25: I have scrawled this exchange: "What's that on the back of my foot, Phyllida?" Me: "It's your shoe, mother." July 29: Ma so good today, the doctor thinks I'm doty. NB: This is a wicked trick "confused" people play on carers. They are suddenly sane for visitors or doctors or medical assessors, and make such sense on the phone that you are the one who is under suspicion.

On August 5, I have quoted a letter my daughter Sophie wrote to her sister, when she had looked after Megsie for a fortnight. "If she mentions having to meet the bank manager one more time, I may well go into a coma. If she makes me count the money in



Phyllida Law's mother

her purse one more time, I am liable to spend it all on heroin. If she tells me once more that Jock and Alistair [our neighbours these 30 years] live next door and have I met them, I will put her to bed with a live flymo. It's almost not funny."

October 10: "Emma has arrived. She laid her head in her grandmother's lap."

Megsie stroked her hair and said, "Oh, lovely! You could make a whole outfit from that."

We all found dusk a difficult time. It was then Mother would say: "Give me the keys, darling. I'm going home." I would explain that we were home. "Nonsense," she would shout, going very pink. "I've never been here in my life before." The look of mistrust, fear, and blank despair was knives in the heart.

We are wrong to assume that in old age we will have our memories to comfort us. Not necessarily. Treasure them now. When my mother said in her anguish: "I have never had a happy moment", I would try to cheer us both by retelling the story of her life. "Fancy," she would say, "I don't remember that at all."

The glimpses of clarity in this desert made her fears worse. Hers and mine. "You know, Phyllida," she said one day with grave authority,

"there is something happening to my brain."

I learnt poetry to keep my head together, pinning Yeats above the stove, and wrote an impassioned letter to Virginia Bottomley, then Secretary of State for Health. In reply, I got a nice letter from somebody else; and two pamphlets from the Scottish Office. What could she do? She was busy closing Barts. We are all lumbered.

My mother finally went into the matchless "geri" ward in Dunoon, and died in the same bed as her husband had occupied two years before. We didn't know he'd gone until well after the event, because Mother had left the phone off the hook again.

An entry in my notebook reads: "August 25: Ma died just before 8am. I was ten minutes late. Maybe less. I will never forgive myself."

● Phyllida Law is an actress and mother of Sophie and Emma Thompson

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- Alzheimer's disease is the most common single disease in the UK, with an estimated 600,000 sufferers.
- The disease can strike as early as 30, with 17,000 current sufferers in the 17-30 group.
- Only £10 per sufferer is currently spent on research, compared with £475 per cancer sufferer and £15,000 for Aids victims. The Alzheimer's Research Trust aims to build Europe's first multidisciplinary research

centre dedicated uniquely to finding a treatment. While recent research has successfully identified some of the causes, scientists at the pioneering centre will dedicate themselves solely to understanding the disease. So far, the trust has raised enough money for a site and building but still needs a further £1 million to equip and staff the centre. It is pinning its hopes on a major fundraising drive to be highlighted on Alzheimer's Research Day, on June 5.

How an actor did his homework

THE veteran actor Peter Vaughan first came into contact with Alzheimer's about 12 years ago when his wife's aunt was diagnosed with it.

"She confided in me about how she couldn't remember things. She told me how frightening it was not to know what she'd been doing over the previous day, having no memory of where she had been or what she had done."

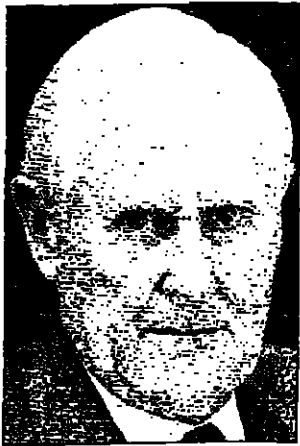
I sympathised, of course, but I never quite realised the full extent of the problem. But then came the repetition of phrases... she kept saying something about "a rail ticket home" over and over again.

Gradually the disease worsened until she couldn't remember anything. There can be no mistaking its cruel progression, and soon you come to realise just how distressing it must be for those who have undertaken to care for someone suffering from Alzheimer's. One hears of cases where sufferers do

things like put kettles on without any water in them or wander out into the dead of night inadequately clothed. It not only puts them at great risk but also causes untold stress to those who take care of them.

In the BBC2 television serial, *Our Friends in the North*, my character is cared for by his long-suffering wife. But he makes it enormously difficult for her, mainly because of his increasingly obsessive behaviour which leads to a violent attack. Finally their son persuades her to have him placed in a home.

When I was offered the part of Felix Hutchinson I contacted the Alzheimer's Centre near my home in Crawley, Sussex. There the principal, the head social worker, all the nurses and carers were wonderfully generous to me and allowed me free access. I attended a remedial class, sat in on meals and talked with the sufferers.



Peter Vaughan: insight

Through this involvement and with so much help from all the staff I gained invaluable insight into this harrowing disease. I found it a very moving and uplifting experience and I came away with a far deeper appreciation of all the painstaking work and care that is involved in the treatment of Alzheimer's.

Believe me, this is a war. In Britain alone there are more than 600,000 sufferers that we know of and, moreover, it is not something that afflicts only the old. There are many cases of people in their forties suffering from it.

Yet Alzheimer's continues to rate as a Cinderella disease. I feel that we need to do everything possible not only to create a greater awareness but also to secure a lot more funding for research and care.

Hopefully the day is not far off when we discover a miraculous cure. Failing that, I hope we can find ways of both alleviating and arresting this dreadful disease. Until then I will continue to do all I can to lobby on behalf of the Alzheimer's Research Trust and the Alzheimer's Disease Society, for as wars go, this is one we simply cannot afford to lose.

Interview by Liz Van Den Nieuwenhof

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



■ VISUAL ART

The spindly splendour of Giacometti comes to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art
OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



■ THEATRE

Sam Mendes brings Alan Bennett's *Habeas Corpus* to the Donmar Warehouse stage
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ MUSICALS

Night of the round table: Paul Nicholas stars in *Camelot* at the Covent Garden Festival
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ FILMS

Redford and Pfeiffer slug it out in the TV newsroom drama of *Up Close and Personal*
OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

Isabel Carlisle reports on the debate over the future of the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition



"Some artists wouldn't be seen dead in the Summer Exhibition because it is hung in such a dreadful way. On the other hand, a less dense hang would spoil what this show is about"

It's that time of year again. The 228th Royal Academy Summer Exhibition opens next Sunday and critics groan at the thought of trying to say something new about a show that changes so little from year to year. But does it matter? Should this gloriously democratic exhibition, to which anyone can submit a work of art, be given an overhaul?

Earlier this year there was a hint that some people in the Academy felt changes should be made. A letter was sent out to dealers and galleries from Kate Bland, recently appointed arts co-ordinator within the Academy, saying: "The Academy is concerned that the artistic standards of the Exhibition need to be greatly improved. My aim is to encourage talented professional artists to submit work for selection."

Tentative plans were made for a forum of artists and critics who would debate ways in which the Summer Exhibi-

tion might recover the initiative it once had for showing really good new art. When the implications of this sank in — a possible influx of "Turner Prize" art, such as installations, video ... and Damien Hirst — there was some alarmed back-peddling. The forum was postponed.

Perhaps that was an overreaction. It seems that hardly anyone could be found who would stand up and say that the Summer Exhibition wasn't fine just as it was. Michael Craig-Martin, Professor of Fine Art at Goldsmiths' College (the art school that specialises in turning out Young Turks of the Damien Hirst variety), was invited to take part in the forum. "They probably expected me to denounce the sort of art that the

Summer Exhibition shows, but they were wrong. I might not choose to initiate such an exhibition, but now it is here it should not be changed."

The architect Piers Gough agrees. "It's like Wimbledon, a great, magnificent institution. Of course it is anachronistic, but I'd be really sorry if it didn't exist. I like the madness of it."

Others are not so sure. R.B. Kitaj who, as an Academician, has one work in this year's show, thinks the Summer Exhibition should continue to surprise us, but wonders if it has the energy to do so. "An RA Summer Show could rise and shine instead of cringe. The RA has a destiny. It's just tired."

Speaking for the Academy, the painter Donald Hamilton-Fraser, on this year's selection committee, points out that "the great virtue of the Summer Exhibition is that it is an open show. If we even unearth a

handful of outstanding pictures that wouldn't normally get seen, we have done our job. The public likes the immense variety and the artists enjoy the straight interface between the public and the work: no one tells us what to think. The forum was not intended to change the Summer Exhibition, just to solicit views: we hoped artists that didn't send in would explain why."

Matthew Flowers, who runs Flowers East in Hackney, one of the new commercial galleries in the East End of London which mixes young and established artists in an informal setting, has an answer. "Some artists wouldn't be seen dead there because it is hung in such a dreadful way. On the other hand a less dense hang would spoil what the show is about."

"I do find it worrying, however, that a large part of the audience that goes there (1.24 million visitors last year)

probably thinks that this is the best of British art."

Karsten Schubert, whose West End gallery shows such cutting-edge artists as Rachel Whiteread, is part of the hectic commercial scene that could be regarded as siphoning off just the artists that the Summer Exhibition needs to bring it back into the centre of the contemporary art debate. "We don't have imperialist ambitions to conquer everywhere else," he says. "Every year there is this frantic attempt to modernise it but the Summer Exhibition is fine as it is, as an outlet for people who do a certain type of work and who don't have much chance to show elsewhere."

It also makes a healthy profit for the Academy, whose financial position has recently been fragile (it gets no money from the Government). The total value of works sold in 1995 was £1.24 million, from which the Academy deducted

a 30 per cent commission. A £1250 handling fee was charged on each of the 11,342 works submitted, of which 1,167 were hung. Including the revenue from entrance fees the show raised around £1.2 million. Given the difficulty of finding sponsorship for the Academy's exhibition programme in the current economic climate, those in charge must consider whether radically changing the nature of the Summer Exhibition would not result in a drop in revenue.

The Summer Exhibition is an enigma. It has no thesis, no real debate between the traditional and the avant-garde, and a lot of the art that it shows is second-rate. Yet it is hugely popular. Essentially it is a grandly traditional art fair where the thrill of a bargain replaces the shock of the new. It may be at least 15 years behind the latest fashions, but the 1996 consensus seems to be that if it ain't broke there is no need to fix it.

● The Summer Exhibition, sponsored by Guinness, opens on Sunday at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (tickets 0171-494 5676, or from First Call 0171 420 0000)

Irish comics steal the show

Luke Clancy enjoys the battle for jokes at this year's edition of the Kilkenny Comedy Festival

This weekend locals in the Kilkenny area were advising visitors not to drink the water as it might be contaminated with E coli. Concern proved unnecessary as few of the thousand who flocked to Kilkenny for this year's brewery-sponsored Murphy's Car Laughs Comedy Festival seemed likely to do such a puritanical thing. As bars in the city offered everything from all-day screenings of *Father Ted*, to performances from the show's star, Ardal O'Hanlon, as well as nearly 40 other comedians, glasses of water were willingly forgone.

Although O'Hanlon was easily the best-known of the local talent, the younger generation of Irish comics, headed up by the cool, blokish humour of Mark Doherty and the confidently staged nervousness of Tommy Tiernan, quickly seduced audiences.

It took little exertion for O'Hanlon to win over his audience. His sets were warm, comfortable train rides over familiar tracks. Precious TV exposure has ensured that O'Hanlon's style, his semi-imbecilic affability in the face of the indignities of friends and family, as well as farm and domestic animals, is accepted almost unquestioningly as hilarious.

O'Hanlon was not nearly the first comic of the festival to look to the animal kingdom for material. Even though there were, miraculously, no official awards given for performances during the weekend, two informal contests soon emerged: a battle for the best jokes about pets, and another for the best joke about "mad cow" disease.

Everybody from Felix Dexter to Eddie Izzard (who was seen in an inhumanely funny stand-up show, as well as in the company of the One World

Impro) had a go at a cat joke with reasonable success. Clear winner in the BSE category, however, was Alan Davies, who speculated that the whole scare might have started when some cows began acting stupid to avoid being eaten.

The American comics ploughed the apparently endlessly fertile subject of gays in the military. If sometimes these gags seemed like failed attempts at topicality, in Rich Hall's set the subject became the basis for a soaring comic riff. The idea that gays in army life would "bother" the other men was, he suggested to the tightly-packed auditorium at the back of Cleere's pub, "a real peacetime issue". In wartime, if someone admires your ass in the shower, that's the best thing that happens to you all day.

Across the street in the Watergate Theatre, with a hand-painted map of the continent as his only prop, Will Durst presented *Myth America*, his slow-motion satirical trip through contemporary America, home to trailer trash and the Menendez brothers, earthquakes and Janet Reno, Ross Perot and the Unabomber. Durst has all the big questions worked out. Why, for instance, is *Baywatch* the world No 1 television show? Because people like to see Americans drowning.

In the same venue, this year's headline act, *Groundhog Day* star Bill Murray, arrived with a team of comics associated with Chicago's Second City comedy club. Putatively visiting Ireland for the golf, Murray and co-stars displayed all the energy of a drowsy afternoon at the eighteenth hole. No great sadness then when after some fatigued improvisation and several threadbare sketches, the team headed back to the fairway.

Home are the haunted

THEATRE

Language Roulette
Belfast

THE current wave of young talent flooding into the theatre is reassuring after the drought of recent years. And here is another promising playwright, Daragh Carville from Armagh, with the Belfast-based troupe Tinderbox.

Language Roulette (at the Old Museum Arts Centre) is at root a homecoming play. Joseph, a young playwright, returns to Northern Ireland after wandering the Continent. He is meeting his former schoolfriend Colm for the first time in years, joined by the drug pusher Tim and Colm's former wife, Anna. It is the first evening of the ceasefire but for these twenty-somethings, tonight is pound-a-pint night at the local. The reunion turns nasty as drinks are downed and Tim starts everyone warring. There are hints of a revenge plot and suspense in the revelation of past wrongs and guilty secrets involving Joseph and Anna.

Carville keeps politics in the background while suggesting links between Ireland's clan struggles and this incestuously close group of friends, fractious and unforgiving yet wanting to love each other again. His characters slob around in shared flats, get wasted, sing the jingles of 1970s game shows, tease, bully, play Truth or Dare.

The play does get into difficulties. In the central scenes of Truth or Dare the

players damage each other verbally but are visually sedentary. Joseph ends up having a bad drugs trip, but the final denouement lacks any really cinematic revelation about the past.

The parts are played with brilliantly relaxed naturalism and unflagging charisma by Tim Loane's cast. Peter Ballance is subtly satanic as Tim. Emma O'Neill's Anna is both stonily hard and heading for the rocks with an alcohol problem. Maria Connolly is wonderfully funny as the dispirited Sarah, while Loane's direction brings style and structure to the piece.

KATE BASSETT

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DEGAS — DAY EIGHT

Richard Cork discusses highlights of the National Gallery's exhibition

This marvellous pastel can be seen as the culmination of two major preoccupations. Degas had long been obsessed with the subject of a woman drying the nape of her neck. He had also returned, again and again, to the holding of hair. In the early years of the 20th century he brought them together. Colour is given free rein. The woman's hair, its highlights worked in with greater subtlety than before, is challenged by the blaze of orange behind. It provides a foil for the paleness of the towel.

which in turn shows up the warmth of the upper arm slicing across it. The energy commanded by the woman as she seizes and rubs is forcefully conveyed.

But the picture gains much of its power from the curtain of gold, flecked with pink, that invests the scene with an unforgettable splendour.

● Degas: *Beyond Impressionism* is at the National Gallery until Aug 26 (tickets from First Call, 0171-420 0000)
● On Wednesday Richard Cork on *Dancer looking at the sole of her right foot* (1892-1900)



"The culmination of two preoccupations": *Woman at her toilette* (c 1900-5). Art Institute of Chicago

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Matthew Parris



The passions aroused by parish politics make reporting the trivial disputes of Parliament seem easy

Gulliver may have been unfair on Lilliput and Brobdingnag. We have no record of the reception his accounts were given in the country he visited, but local experts would surely have slated his books as partial and inaccurate. Into vexed and delicate local controversies we blunder at our peril.

But still the venture can be worthwhile. A fresh eye can discern what those in the thick of things miss. And so I make no apology for sharing with a wider audience than its authors may have expected the *Winsters Churchwardens' Letter* in the most recent *Elton and Winsters Parish Review*.

"Once again the Churchwardens have disagreed about the candidate for the three parishes, and this was a young family man who wanted a challenge for God and for himself. I know he wanted to show God in a new light. A breath of fresh air in the parishes, but once again, like Christ 2000 years ago, he was rejected, put on the cross and crucified."

You will sense that feelings are running high. So high that I had better not comment of any sort. I lay it before you unadorned.

Elton, Winsters, and South Darley are three adjacent Derbyshire villages on the edge of the Peak District. Elton (near which I live) is a high, windy, straggling village, not particularly picturesque, but a tolerant and rather relaxed place, and a friendly one. Winsters is prettier, a close-knit village with a strong sense of identity, and perhaps a greater readiness to judge: feelings there are sometimes intense. South Darley, though charming, borders on other communities and is not so focused as a village. Three parishes, then, each with its own church, but in these straitened days, obliged to share one vicar. Each parochial church council contributes two churchwardens, and these six are responsible for choosing the vicar.

And the parishes are looking for a vicar. They have been without one for more than two years, ever since the last priest retired. His later ministry was punctuated by blasts against the ordination of women. Elton, however, has no rooted objection to women priests. South Darley passed a resolution declining to accept a woman, and is now obliged by church regulations to stick to this for five years, though parochial opinion is said to have moved since. Winsters is resolutely opposed to women priests and has entertained as a preacher the Bishop of Ebbw Vale, a flying bishop with no geographical diocese who ministers to traditionalists. Elton didn't come.

Winsters still has a large vicarage, which it is more

likely to keep if it gets a vicar with a family. Elton lost its rectory years ago, and the future of Winsters's vicarage is of less concern there. Winsters's objection to women priests seems to extend even to male priests who do not themselves object to women priests. Elton's acceptance of women priests seems to bring with it a guardedness about male priests who reject them.

Pity the Bishop of Derby. He keeps sending candidates for the job and the three villages keep failing to agree on one. Many are sent but none are chosen. Here is the Churchwardens' Letter for May, which provoked the one from a Winsters churchwarden quoted above.

"Thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. . . . last month I was angry, extremely angry. I suppose it was frustration. The churchwardens from Elton, Winsters and South Darley have been involved in the search for a priest to take charge of the three parishes. We have been presented with three candidates and we have yet to agree."

When Winsters invited the flying bishop to preach, Elton didn't come.

I can report only rumour. The churchwardens' deliberations are secret, but it is thought that the first candidate may have been a single man with no family, popular with Elton but not Winsters; the second, the most recent, reputedly sent by the Bishop of Ebbw Vale, a family man with many children, popular with Winsters but not Elton. Despairing South Darley, meanwhile, just seeks a resolution. So does the Bishop of Derby. Don't look for Mr Major and Europe.

Back to the Winsters Churchwardens' Letter, written after Elton rejected Winsters's Ebbw Vale candidate: "All three parishes will be poorer this day, and the Devil has triumphed again. Shall we ever see an Easter Sunday again, for now the Devil is creeping into each corner, deeper and deeper into the hearts of the parishes, and laughing. The day is mine, the day is mine!"

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Rumour reaches me from a conversation overheard in Tonise Hairdressers in Winsters that this is the moderated version. Apparently, the lady who types the letter toned it down.

A final word from Matthew (July 20): "The foxes have holes, the birds of the air have nests", but a vicar of Elton, Winsters and South Darley hath not where to lay his head.

The executives who run Mercury Asset Management have to earn their high salaries and huge bonuses

The fat cat is the pensioner's friend

The British have always been suspicious of wealth, particularly of the rich who made their money in the marketplace. Impecunious Victorian gentlemen looked down on the people in trade who were then making Britain the world's first industrial nation. The academic class still often teaches frankly anti-commercial values in schools and universities. Social and intellectual snobbery have both been hostile to the successful businessman. And while social snobbery of this kind has decreased, academic hostility to business success has not.

Now the opportunities of contemporary international markets are again producing relatively large numbers of new rich in Britain. In the early 1990s, the Lord Chancellor earned about £1 million a year in modern terms, and paid very little of it in tax. Yet Lord Birkhead managed to live beyond even this princely income. Now we are again getting million-pound earners in the City, and some in business. We have already had several such successes among entertainers and bestselling authors. Paul McCartney, Mick Jagger and Andrew Lloyd Webber are among the richest people in the country, and Jeffrey Archer is not doing too badly.

Everyone can see the relationship between the attraction of Paul McCartney's music, or Andrew Lloyd Webber's, and the earnings that result. The market test in these cases is obvious. Last week another couple of millionaire earners cropped up, senior executives in Mercury Asset Management which invests some £80 billion of funds, mostly the pension funds which will provide the individual security of much lower earners in their old age. Nobody, I think, denies the social utility of the work this company does, though I have been critical of its investment style in the past — particularly its heavy-handed support of the Granada bid for Forté — and still regard it as less stable than it ought to be in backing good managements under fire.

The person most responsible for the support that Mercury gave to Granada was the vice-chairman, Carol Galley. Last year she earned £1,110,000. That was made up of £210,000 of basic salary and £900,000 in performance-related bonuses, £400,000 of which was deferred. She also has phantom options now worth £5.8 million, but these have been accumulated over several years. Senior to her is the deputy chairman, Stephen Zimmerman. He was paid the same basic £210,000, but his pay for the year totalled £1.47 million and he has accumulated phantom options of £6.7 million. These are very large sums, and many people talk of them as "obscene" and say that "nobody can be worth £1 million a year" — while perhaps accepting the even greater wealth of the successful musicians.

Mercury Asset Management is in the investment business and is always concerned with getting a good return on its investments. So what return has it had on this investment in the work of Miss Galley and Mr Zimmerman? In the past 18 months, funds under management have increased by about a third, from around £60 billion to around £80 billion; the profits have risen sharply, and the share price has risen as well. The company is now valued on the Stock Exchange at £1.80 million. So the shareholders have done very well out of the quality of the management.

More importantly, the people whose funds have been managed, the pensioners and other investors, have done very well also. It is said that in the past year the company scored an

average gain on its funds of around 23 per cent, well above the market and above most of its competitors. That return goes to the pension funds they manage. Mercury charges relatively low fees for managing these funds so successfully.

Obviously the company has to compete in the market for the talent which can produce such results, and its fund managers are judged on their records. The high bonuses accrue only if the performance justifies them, just as Jeffrey Archer will only

either setting up their own companies or in some new partnership. If they attracted £1 billion of new funds on a 1.5 per cent fee basis — which is a modest estimate — they could be earning an individual £5 million, instead of £1 million or so.

Mercury Asset Management's return of more than 20 per cent is well up with the performance of the hedge funds, which are speculative funds specialising in high returns for international investors. These usually charge a fee of 1 per cent, plus 20 per cent of the gain. On last year's performance by Mercury, a hedge fund fee would probably have come to about £3.5 billion on a gain of about £30.5 billion. That makes the fees to Mercury executives of £1 million or so each seem a bargain basement price.

What will they do with the money? I do not know Miss Galley's or Mr Zimmerman's individual circumstances, but I do know what happens to people with similar salaries. Much the greater part of this money is usually saved and invested. Rather few people earn a million pounds a year for more than a few years, so they want to build up their capital. Very often such high earners live on their basic salaries and save most or all of their bonuses. If these two are doing that, they may well be saving something like 80 per cent of their incomes after tax, plus the net future proceeds of their options. If so, they have not been taking money out of the national resources, they have been putting money in.

In the modern competitive world, high-savings countries, mainly in

asia, have had much more rapidly growing economies than low-savings countries, of which Britain unfortunately is one. Economists are agreed that people save a higher proportion of their income as they grow richer. That proportion seems to go on rising. Someone with an income of £1 million is likely to save a higher proportion than someone with an income of £100,000, just as the £100,000 person will save a higher proportion than the person with an income of £10,000. Yet someone with an income of £10 million is likely to save a higher proportion still. Maynard Keynes even thought that depressions could be caused by the rich saving too much, but in the modern consumer society we desperately need their savings to balance mass spending on consumer goods.

There are therefore very strong arguments for saying that these £1 million salaries are justified in market terms, that if anything Miss Galley and Mr Zimmerman are underpaid by international competitive standards, that such salaries rightly reward exceptional skills, and that they are largely saved, to the economic benefit of all of us. Finally one should look at the alternative. I think one still could find competent, qualified fund managers, who would not look ridiculous at the top of Mercury, for salaries much lower than these, perhaps for £100,000 rather than £1 million. But I'm sure that such routine fund managers could not match the company's actual proven results.

Last year competent fund managers of this sort would probably have produced a respectable 15 per cent, against Mercury's 23 per cent — if that is the correct figure. At the beginning of the year, the funds under management were £60 billion. So with competent, minimum cost fund management the return to the pensioners might have been £4.8 billion less, and the saving to the company would have been about £2 million. That would not have been a good bargain for the pensioners.

Too sensible for his own good

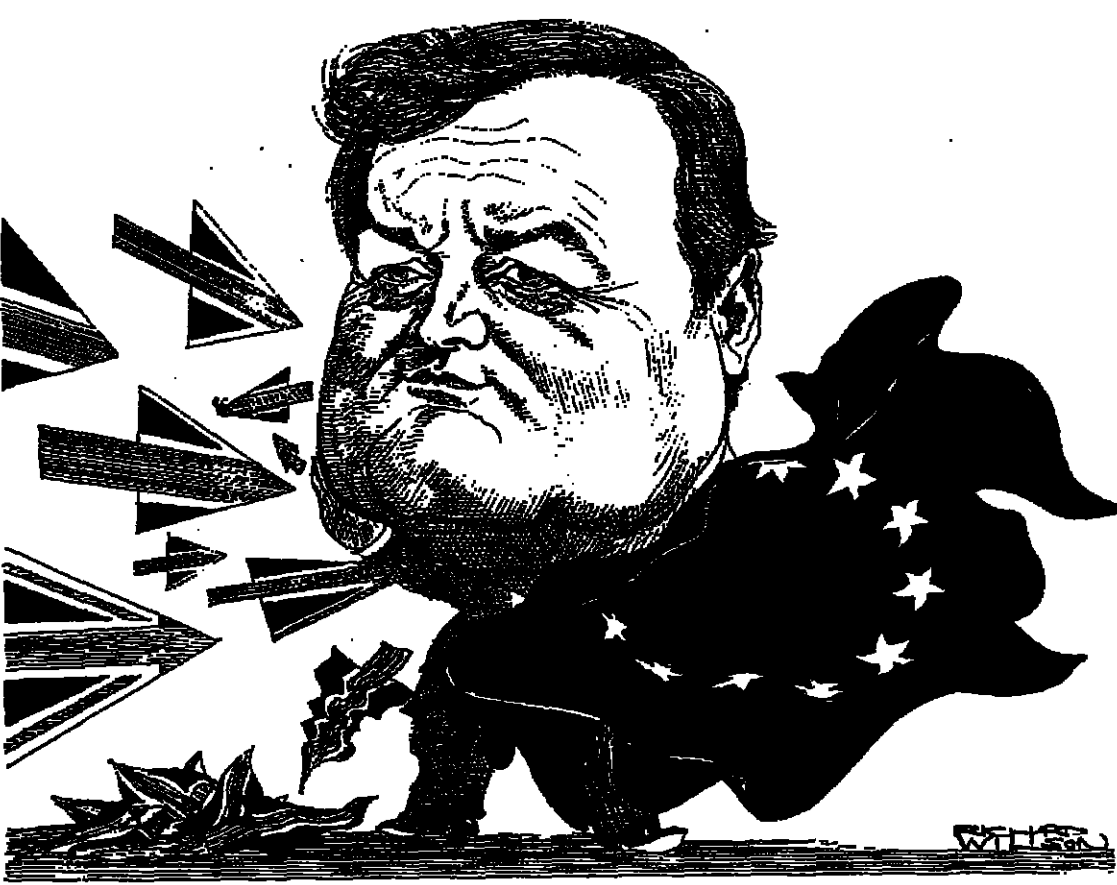
Peter Riddell says Kenneth Clarke is right about both tax and Europe

If the Tories have any sense — and I am not sure how many MPs still have — they will listen to Kenneth Clarke. On both Europe and taxes, he is right and his party critics are wrong, not just about the merits of the issues but also about what will help the Tories' electoral chances.

Talking to him in the Treasury for his Times interview last Thursday, I was struck by the contrast between his record and his party standing. He is one of the three or four most successful of the 13 Conservative Chancellor since the war, in the same league as Butler before his disastrous final year, Selwyn Lloyd, and Nigel Lawson from 1983 to 1987. Building on decisions taken by Norman Lamont, Mr Clarke has presided over low inflation and falling unemployment. Unlike Lawson, he has not been much interested in the debates of economists, but his judgment has generally been vindicated by events. He has, at any rate, been lucky.

Yet Mr Clarke is now a hate-figure for the Euro-sceptic Right. Not only is he no longer mentioned as a possible party leader — even though he is, next to Michael Heseltine, by far the best qualified — but his enemies would like to force him out of office. Perhaps he should compare notes with Gordon Brown, who has also faced internal criticism for presenting uncomfortable facts to the Tories.

The Tory sceptics regard Mr Clarke as the main obstacle to their aims. As it is, the pro-Europeans have had to accept a policy of withholding contributions, an empty chair policy at ministerial meetings or boycotting the inter-governmental conference negotiations.



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

currency referendum — it is pocketed by the sceptics, who then demand more. The European argument refuses to lie down, and one's attitude towards it has become the most important identifying mark for any Tory.

Mr Clarke sees the suspension of co-operation within the European Union as a legitimate short-term tactic, but not as the start of a general assault on the EU, over, say, the European Court of Justice, as some sceptics would wish. The Chancellor went along with the Prime Minister's stand — and it was very much John Major's decision — in part because it was preferable to other options: withholding contributions, an empty chair policy at ministerial meetings or boycotting the inter-governmental conference negotiations.

He would now like to see an agreement over the next two days on lifting the ban on beef derivatives (which is probable but not certain), followed by talks over the next three weeks about a framework for a phased ending of the entire ban. Britain would receive good faith assurances about a gradual lifting of the rest of the beef ban in response to specified actions to eliminate BSE, although there would not be a rigid timetable. He hopes that normal relations can be resumed at the heads of government summit in Florence at the end of the month.

The longer the confrontation continues — stirred up by the stridency of the tabloids — the more it poisons relations with the rest of the EU. As Douglas Hurd said yesterday, trench warfare would be counter-productive, and would make it much harder for Mr Clarke to hold the line on the European White Paper, the only chance of presenting even a semi-coherent policy at the general election. A long drawn-out "war" with Brussels would not benefit the Tories, but would undermine both unity and credibility. Having raised the stakes and released a flood of anti-EU prejudice, Mr Major has created for himself the problem of how to compromise without being denounced for climbing down. Mr Clarke is right to want to sort out the problem quickly, not least because it produces absurd situations such as his veto later today of EU proposals on combating fraud.

Mr Clarke is also denounced by the Tory Right for being cool on tax-cutting. This ignores both his record and the economic situation. Few ministers have been as tough on public services as he has, and as Chancellor he has proposed, and delivered, a tighter squeeze on public spending than any of his predecessors. Big tax cuts may be impossible this autumn, not because of laxity on spending but because of a shortfall in tax receipts which has pushed up borrowing. And even if public expenditure can be squeezed a bit more, sizeable tax cuts may be the last thing the economy needs, since consumer spending is already accelerating and is being boosted by maturing Tessa's, utility rebates and building society take-overs. The Government may anyway be lucky to avoid higher interest rates before the election.

Kenneth Clarke is dubious about the Tory Right's view that the party's electoral prospects are dependent on tax cuts in the Budget. What matters more is whether voters believe that they will be better-off and that tax cuts are more likely under a Conservative than under a Labour government. His view is that this "card" will get stronger, the longer this Parliament continues. I doubt if that will be sufficient against a powerful feeling that it is time for a change, but there is nothing to be gained by the unjustifiable risks of a beef "war" or large tax cuts.

That may do little, of course, for Mr Clarke's career. Responsible Chancellors are always more popular with the City and with historians than with their parties at the time. That, and isolation over Europe, was Roy Jenkins' fate a generation ago. When I suggested the parallel during our interview, Mr Clarke conceded that Jenkins was the best Labour Chancellor he could remember, and he agreed with him about some aspects of Europe. Mr Clarke claims he is not isolated within the Tory party over Europe, but only in the columns of some newspapers. Conservative MPs will ignore his views at their cost.

Welsh hush

SLEAZE may have ended the career of Rod Richards, but at least he has drawn attention to the department he served as a junior minister. For the past year, a sepulchral calm has descended on the Welsh Office, which once thrilled to the Thatcherite experiments of John Redwood and the thunder of Peter Walker's empire-building.

Until the Richards imbroglio, William Hague, 35, the current Secretary of State, had imbued his department with more of a softly-soiled style. A White Paper on the Welsh countryside here, a murmur on nursery vouchers there, otherwise just quiet efficiency.

"Hague hasn't been using the job as a political stepping-stone so overtly as his predecessors," says Dafydd Wigley, the Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon. "Hague has his right-wing agenda," says Peter Hain, Labour MP for Neath, disparagingly, "but at least he doesn't just treat Wales as a laboratory for crazy ideas."

Hain certainly has no regrets for the passing of Richards, who once

called him a liar in the House of Commons only to have to retract his words. "Richards was a dreadful minister," he says, "the Stalin of the Welsh Office. It's not personal; it's political."

● Straight into the dictionary of quotations must go the last words of Timothy Leary, the LSD guru who died last week. Just



Naipaul: furious

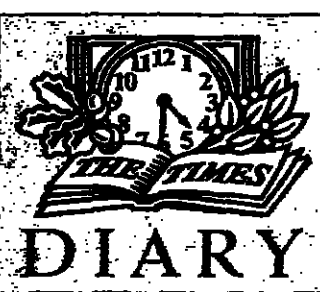
before passing away, he managed to croak rhetorically: "Yeah, why not?"

Bogus man

MAKING a contrary appearance at the Hay Literary Festival at the weekend was the writer V.S. Naipaul. Having arrived unexpectedly on the same stage as Paul Theroux, Naipaul began tearing into the teaching of English at universities. He railed against "the tyranny that bogus English courses have imposed on the whole of civilisation", called English students "idlers", and said that their degrees were not worth even half a degree in maths or physics.

"Surely," asked a member of the audience, "your own time at Oxford was crucial to your development as a writer?" Naipaul replied tartly: "No, it was not."

● Meanwhile, at another festival event, Salman Rushdie was helping a team from The New Yorker to victory over The Sunday Times in a debate about the encroachment of American culture on Europe. When the debate was opened to the floor, one angry-looking woman rose up, arms



crossed, her voice crackling into the microphone. "Why," she cried, "should we sit here and listen to the views of a panel both so overwhelmingly male and so overwhelmingly white?" Rushdie, at first startled, quickly recovered. "I have been called many things in my life," he said, "but white is not one them."

Jolly jingo

SECURITY has been tightened around the Examination Schools in Oxford today for the end of History finals. For once, flour-chucking and champagne-spraying are not the problem. Under threat is a portrait of Kaiser Wilhelm II which hangs in the Schools. A grandiose affair in a heavy gilt frame, the

painting has been the object of much finger-jabbing by the more nationalistic undergraduates, fired up by the beef war. An examiner has been detailed to stand guard beneath the painting.

The portrait commemorates Oxford's awarding of an honorary degree to Kaiser Wilhelm in 1909. Oxford, which denied Margaret Thatcher such an honour, had once again shown its unerring judgment. Five years later, Kaiser Wilhelm was at war with Britain.



"Think again, Carey, I am not on call seven days"

● Saturday at Ginge Manor, Oxfordshire, saw the wedding of Samantha Sheffield, daughter of Sir Reginald Sheffield and Viscountess Astor, to David Cameron, Tory tyro and prospective candidate for Stafford. The Sheffield side included the likes of Jade Jagger, while Cameron brought the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, whom Cameron served as special adviser through Black Wednesday. Lamont proved to be the hit of the evening when he abandoned his low-slung frame to the lifting heat of a folk-reggae band. Fellow dancers could only stand back in awe.

Dunn's day

FURIOUS at straightening in the City of London this morning as Baroness Dunn, regarded until recently as Hong Kong's most powerful woman, arrives for her first day at work. She has resettled in Britain, and today begins her new job as the executive director of John Swire & Sons, one of Hong Kong's richest companies.

Despite her inordinately long title — she is Baroness Dunn of Hong Kong Island in Hong Kong

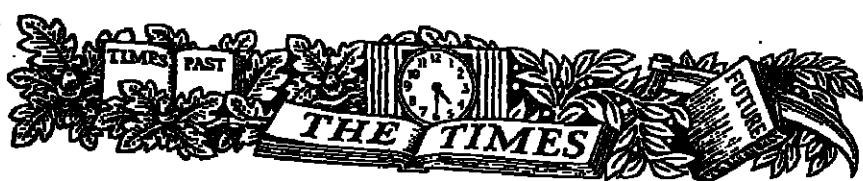


Baroness Dunn (and more)

and of Knightsbridge in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea — she is hoping for a lower profile in this country. She has left her white Cadillac back in the colony.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل



LIGHTING THE TORCH

A spectacular summer of sport will soon be with us

Of all mankind's great inventions, few have succeeded in capturing the imagination more than sport. This summer witnesses a spectacular pageant, especially for those fortunate enough to live on these islands.

Besides the regular glories of Test matches, Open golf and of course Wimbledon, England has Euro 96, the largest such event to be organised in this country for 30 years, while Atlanta, Georgia, will host the centenary Olympics. These will be blessed by the largest number of events, countries, competitors and television viewers in the history of that quadrennial gathering.

For us, then, this may literally be the greatest summer of sport we will ever experience. All of this is very appropriate. Games of differing sorts have been around for at least 60 centuries. The ancient Egyptians probably invented them — although there is a case for the Chinese. The Greeks certainly first organised them, and the Romans made them a public spectacle. Yet it was largely the British during the 19th century who codified most of what are now the most popular sports and games.

Our passion for detailed legalism strikes many outside our shores as curious, given our failure to apply it to other issues such as a national constitution. Nevertheless, it was only through the application of agreed rules that international competition was made possible. So it is no idle nationalist boast to suggest that sport today is a British export.

The fascination for human beings of such efforts is also apt. For while the word derives from the act of abandoning serious activity for pleasurable pastime, that notion of "sport" is misleading. The desire to compete, the urge to perfect, and the will to triumph over present opponents and past performances, are in microcosm the story of our species on its journey from the caves to the cosmos. Sport is compelling because it says so much about people. The Greeks understood

and encouraged that, which is why they held the original Olympiad in 776 BC. Time may have passed but that message remains true, captured in its diverse means from the village green to the London Marathon.

The European championship of football will be the focal point this month. It brings back memories of 30 years ago when England staged and won the World Cup in a final so thrilling that Alf Ramsey blurted out to reporters that he was "over the moon" — a phrase subsequently immortalised.

But the Wembley win that year was just part of a wonderful sporting show that included a dazzling West Indian cricket team, an elegant Manuel Santana's Wimbledon title, and a first Open golf championship for Jack Nicklaus. Similarly, Euro 96 will be as much curtain-raiser as main performance in the unique festival we are about to witness.

The emphasis should be placed on the "we", for in modern times that phrase "the season" really refers to a long summer of sport that can be enjoyed by all rather than a narrow and exclusive set of events that were more social than sporting. The Atlanta Olympics alone will be broadcast to some four billion television sets across the globe.

Stand by then for this grand sporting summer. As trailer for what is to come, *The Times* today produces a 24-page supplement for the European championship among 41 pages devoted to sport — a record in itself, at least for us. We will seek to do justice to the many momentous months ahead in our coverage. Sport is for people; that is its greatest strength. For all the often expressed concerns about money and professionalism, its appeal remains based on simple but enduring and important values. The power to amaze, entertain and inspire still lies as much in participation as personal victory, and in our varying ways we can all take part. Let the games begin.

TOWARDS A HABITABLE HABITAT

The world is looking for a solution to megalopolis

The United Nations is most effective when it operates by persuasion and consensus. Its most durable achievements in the past decade have been not in peacekeeping or the imposition of sanctions but in its conferences on the themes that lie at the heart of global order: the environment, human rights, population, poverty and the position of women.

The first of these, the Rio environment conference, is having lasting effect; almost no government now takes decisions on pollution, industrial activity or the destruction of rainforests without reference to the Rio agenda. The resolutions of the Cairo population conference are also shaping better policies throughout the developing world. The UN is now turning its attention to housing. The Habitat II conference opens tomorrow in Istanbul and promises to be as contentious and as productive as Rio or Cairo.

The world's cities are growing by a million people a week. But despite investment in urban infrastructure, more than two thirds of city populations live in substandard housing, and at least 600 million people live in squalor, with polluted water, bad sanitation and no privacy. Cities, nevertheless, are powerful magnets. They are sucking in at an increasing rate the rural poor who can still earn more in towns and have access to jobs, healthcare and education. In the next 20 years the megalopolis of 20 million people or more will become a familiar pattern in most continents: Greater Tokyo, at 28 million, will remain the largest conurbation.

How to prevent these cities becoming vast sinks of pollution, unregulated, unordered and unproductive, will be the main issue in Istanbul. Architects, planners, local authorities, population experts and lobby groups

will be there in force, each putting forward Utopian schemes to relieve poverty or guarantee roofs over heads. The conference should listen to all, and adopt the policies of none. There is no single blueprint for regulating man's oldest social instinct, the building of communal dwellings. Cities evolve; they cannot be decreed or destroyed. What the UN can do is provide a databank of best practice. It can guide governments, help planners and clarify issues. It should steer clear of the kind of dirigiste interventionism that ruins initiative and politicises everything the UN touches.

Politics, nevertheless, will not be far away. Wally N'dow, the Habitat secretary-general, says the conference will not divide along North-South lines because the problems of cities are common; even in richer cities, there are pockets of deprivation. His optimism may be misplaced. The big argument will be over the demand for housing to be declared a human right. The poorer countries will insist that all people are entitled to shelter; the richer countries will ask who is to pay for this right. Is the State to be the provider? Should housing be publicly financed? Is shelter the right of every refugee?

There will also be arguments over "sustainable development", and whether this would be better described as "sustained economic progress". There will be arguments over limiting migrants to cities, building on agricultural land, the role of local authorities and financial resources. These arguments should be aired; they cannot be resolved. The world is not looking for a packaged UN declaration, but for fresh ideas on how cities can remain habitable, safe and dynamic in the future.

SLEAZE, CONTINUED

Private lives today affect public credibility, alas

Another day: another Tory sleaze scandal. Rod(eric) Richards, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Welsh Office, resigned his junior office yesterday as soon as the *News of the World* published its exposure of his affair with the (female) former publicity chief of the National Canine Defence League. So formulaic has the damage-limitation in such cases become that the customary exchange of hypocritical letters between the Prime Minister and the peccant minister was deemed unnecessary.

Can public lessons be drawn from this private tragedy? Mr Richards was one of that threatened species, a Welsh Tory MP, but few outside the Principality were aware of his existence. He was that even rarer breed, the last Welsh-speaking minister. The Prime Minister will have difficulty in finding a replacement before the election. He must hope to persuade Sir Wyn Roberts, the longest-serving minister in the same department this century, to return as night-watchman.

Mr Richards became known as John Redwood's rottweiler when the latter was Secretary of State for Wales, because of his partisan bark and bite. With the tabloids reputed to be paying big money for sexual secrets, and with modern surveillance techniques having become so sophisticated, the former Marine showed himself less prudent than even a rottweiler to let himself be so entrapped by camera and quote. The present Government is probably no more sexually immoral than its predecessors. But the tide of the times and the challenge of its

"back to basics" rhetoric militates against it. In the past it was a key task of the whips to watch the behaviour of junior ministers. Hard-working, middle-aged men, too often away from their homes, are subject to temptation. And ambitious politicians have a sex drive that is quite disproportionate to their sex appeal. But once a quiet word, a single-paragraph resignation note made sure that the pain was kept a purely private matter. During John Major's Government, in which the Whips' Office seems to be less well informed than the newspapers, private pain has too often been played out in public.

In the latest scandal, Mr Major's swift action has stanchied a political haemorrhage and shown that he can be a man of decisiveness who can act with due ruthlessness to see off trouble. Loyal Tories must dearly wish that he had shown the same forcefulness in earlier sex scandals. Others may wish that a minister could insist that his private life was private. Mr Major's prostration over his friend David Mellor and a series of other tawdry affairs enabled Labour to pin on this Government the charge of being ineffectual and seedy.

By moving with such speed Mr Major has ensured that Mr Richards will, within a few weeks, return to deserved obscurity. Labour will try to launch a few rockets about sleaze. But they will soon be seen as irrelevant to the political questions of the governance of Wales and the entire United Kingdom. Mr Major has acted. If only he had shown such determination in the past.

Brussels reaction to beef reprisals

From Mr Ian Flintoff

Sir, "Cohorts of Eurocrats must be smirking behind their hands," Simon Jenkins writes of the "beef war" — with, I fear, much understatement.

This is one more in a series of what has been regarded as anachronistic clowning by British governments.

I was with the European Commission in the 1970s when James Callaghan came over to insist on "renegotiating the terms of British entry" (into the then EEC). This time-wasting and fruitless exercise took many months during which, indeed, the scoffing and derision in corridors and offices were uncontained.

I was also in Brussels when the gunboats were being dispatched to fight a war in the South Atlantic. Again, rightly or wrongly, non-British companions looked at each other with the wildest of surmises and asked me which century my country thought it was living in.

But the beef war surely takes, as it were, the biscuit. Unfortunately, I suspect this parade of national retardation may make Britain too much the fool and patsy of Europe that our reputation will take several decades to recover.

Yours sincerely,
IAN FLINTOFF
(Spokesman's Group,
European Commission, 1973-76,
22 Chaldon Road, SW6,
May 29.

From Mr A. J. Morgan

Sir, I cannot accept Simon Jenkins's arguments. British beef was banned in Germany and France because consumers wanted it to be banned, not for competitive advantage. If there had been widespread BSE in France, French beef would have been banned here, to general applause.

The United States and other English-speaking countries banned British beef seven years ago, without, of course, eliciting protest from the Europhobes.

Yours etc,
A. J. MORGAN,
20 Rectory Road, SW13,
May 29.

From the Spokesman for Agriculture,
European Commission

Sir, *The Times* reported in its lead story on May 30, "Brussels his back against British veto", that compensation to farmers for falling beef prices hands more cash to German and French farmers than to British farmers whose herds have been most affected — an assertion which "provoked the fury of Conservative Euro-sceptics".

This report is misleading in three ways: first, it fails to make it clear that the figures quoted represent only the minor part of a total proposed package of £520 million, out of which the UK will receive £85 million.

Secondly, markets throughout the EU have been hit by the BSE crisis, some far harder than in the UK. Because of the general fall in prices, this new support package has been broadly divided according to the size of the beef herd in each country. The UK has 14.5 per cent of the beef herd and will receive 16 per cent of the money.

Thirdly, the report failed to mention EU support for the UK for measures taken to remove animals over 30 months from the food chain. The EU is funding 70 per cent of the compensation for British farmers, at a cost of some £120 million this year, and £240 million a year thereafter. Support of this magnitude is not available to any other member state.

Yours etc,
GERRY KIELY,
Spokesman for Agriculture,
European Commission,
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049, Brussels,
May 31.

Bullfighting

From Mr Richard G. Coleman

Sir, Today you published a picture of Cristina Sánchez, the Spanish bullfighter, and the bleeding bull she is about to kill. You mention the acclaim of the crowd.

I find all this horrifying. One more act of wanton cruelty is being added to the gloomy catalogue of violence in our modern world.

Sincerely yours,
RICHARD G. COLEMAN,
52 Falstaff Avenue,
Earley,
Reading, Berkshire,
May 27.

Aid to Burmese people

From Baroness Cox
and Dr Martin Panter

Sir, We applaud your leader of May 27 on Burma and agree with Nicholas Mellor (letter, May 31) on the need to monitor foreign investment in that country. But in view of the Burmese authorities' appalling record of human rights violations, we would urge even further measures.

Having had the privilege of working with the Karen and Karenni peoples on the Thai-Burmese border, we have seen and shared some of their great suffering, especially during the past 18 months since the fall of the Karen headquarters at Manerplaw, resulting in the displacement of some

Penal philosophy for 21st century

From Professor Seán
McConville and others

Sir, On April 10, 1995, you published a letter from us marking the centenary of the report of the Gladstone Committee on Prisons, urging an overview on the scale of the Gladstone inquiry, "to propound a sound and authoritative penal philosophy for the 21st century" — in short, a royal commission on crime and punishment. Little, if any, political attention was paid then or since, either to the centenary or to the proposal for an inquiry.

In the intervening period, however, events have repeatedly emphasised the need for an authoritative and deliberate review of our criminal justice and penal systems. An unprecedented, publicly conducted argument between the Home Office and the higher judiciary over sentencing policy has gone on unabated (letters, May 20, 24 and 27).

On May 23 the retiring Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosford, initiated a Lords debate on government proposals, as outlined in the White Paper, *Protecting the Public*. In his recent speech to the Prison Reform Trust (report, May 10) the Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking with great moral authority and drawing on extensive pastoral experience of the prisons, emphasised the need for a proper balance within the penal system between the various purposes of punishment.

In a pre-election period there must now be grave concern that consideration of criminal and penal policy will stray even further from the course recommended by the Archbishop. Over the last two decades the United States

has shown the tragic and counter-productive results of mixing competitive party politics with such policy debates and thereby inflaming public prejudice. This is a field where the national interest demands that bipartisanship should be striven for, even while legitimate party differences are debated.

It is essential to safeguard criminal and penal policy from such dangers, by providing a mechanism to address these important issues, dispassionately, authoritatively and constructively. It is time for a royal commission.

Yours faithfully,
SEÁN MCCONVILLE,
ALLEN OF ABBEYDALE
(Permanent Under Secretary,
Home Office, 1966-72),
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER
(Member, Home Secretary's Advisory Council on the Penal System, 1966-78),
ANTHONY E. BOTTOMS
(Wolfson Professor of Criminology,
University of Cambridge),
RALPH GIBSON
(Lord Justice of Appeal, 1965-94),
JOHN K. HARDING
(Chief Probation Officer, Inner London),
JOHN HUNT
(Chairman, Parole Board for England and Wales, 1967-74),
TERENCE MORRIS
(Professor Emeritus, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of London),
BRENDAN O'FRIEL
(Chairman, Prison Governors' Association, 1990-95),
RUNCIE
(Archbishop of Canterbury, 1980-91),
University of London,
Queen Mary and Westfield College,
Faculty of Laws,
Mile End Road, E1,
May 31.

Lessons on marriage and family life

From the Bishop of Hull

Sir, Cardinal Hume has rightly called for "greater public investment in education for relationships and parenting" (letter, May 28).

I recently entered this debate with a suggestion that parents should be offered double child benefit for a year on their first child if they avail themselves of parenting classes. The positive response I have received shows a new public mood that politicians would do well to heed in preparation for a general election.

We need a renewed taxation and benefit system that encourages parents to take responsibility for the moral and emotional development of their children.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES HULLEN,
Hullen House, Woodfield Lane,
Hessle, North Humberside,
May 29.

From Mr Mark Mullins

Sir, There can be few if any who do not share Cardinal Hume's desire to

find practical and effective ways to support marriage and family life.

A start might be to refer to the Ten Commandments where we read that adultery is one of the forbidden actions of mankind. Surely nothing is as destructive to marriage and family life as adultery.

Traditionally the law has acknowledged this and admonished adulterers by making it a clear statutory ground for divorce. Is it not a retrograde step to remove any concept of fault from divorce law in these circumstances?

Further, is it for us as a society to tolerate what God does not? As St Paul said: "The law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ" (Galatians, iii, 24).

Surely the preferable course is to strengthen the laws of the land to realign them with the laws of scripture.

Yours faithfully,
MARK MULLINS
(Barrister-at-law),
Cavalry and Guards Club,
127 Piccadilly, W1,
May 28.

Church property

From the Chairman of the
English Clergy Association

Sir, Your report (May 24) of the sad arrest of an official of the London diocesan fund is somewhat confused about church property. The diocese does not own the vicarages of the parishes of London. Most of them are owned by the parson in his corporate capacity, effectively as a trustee for the benefit of the parishioners.

The confusion easily arises since, when there is no vicar (even if there is a priest-in-charge), the diocese may sell the parsonage and profit by the proceeds. The guardianship of the diocese was originally intended to prevent the parish from selling the house to its advantage.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MASDING, Chairman,
The English Clergy Association,
Hamstead Vicarage,
840 Walsall Road, Birmingham 42,
May 24.

Lottery and architects

From the President of the RIBA

Sir, In his article of May 28, "Windfalls for advisers", Jon Ashworth suggests that most architects will gain a windfall fortune from lottery projects. Certainly a few will work hard over a number of years to earn relatively large fees from the small number of large projects, but the vast majority of architects involved in lottery application projects are in more danger of losing money than of winning a small fortune.

No doughnut he

From Dr Alfred D. White

Sir, John F. Kennedy was no doubt guilty of many things, but calling himself a doughnut in front of a large crowd of the people of Berlin (review by Raymond Seitz, Books, May 23) was not one of them.

The word *Berliner* may mean a doughnut over wide areas of northern and western Germany, but not in the usage of Berlin itself.

A learned refutation of the myth that JFK exposed himself to ridicule by saying, "Ich bin ein Berliner" was provided by Jürgen Eichhoff (*Monatshefte für den deutschen Unterricht*, vol 85, pp 71-80).

Yours faithfully,
A. D. WHITE
(Director of Studies in German),
University of Wales,
School of European Studies,
PO Box 908,
Cardiff CF1 3YQ,
May 28.

A great deal of work by architects in preparing lottery applications is free or at cost, based on gaining the commission if the bid is successful. A recent RIBA survey showed that 47 per cent of architects working on lottery projects are doing so unpaid and that as many as a third have been involved in bids or competitions for projects which will never materialise.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN LUDER, President,
Royal Institute of British Architects,
66 Portland Place, W1,
May 29.

Gasholders which light up the past

From the Director of the
Science Museum and others

Sir, Marcus Binney ("Keeping alive gas's romantic flame", Arts, April 24) was right to compare the proposed demolition of the gasholders at St Pancras for the Channel Tunnel rail link to the tragedy of the Euston Arch. It seems that we have learnt nothing over the past 30 years. It is time the industrial heritage of this country was taken seriously.

Mr Binney might also have mentioned the more recent parallel of Marc Isambard Brunel's Thames tunnel — an achievement of world importance where some vestige of the original structure will now remain, but only after an international outcry at proposals to refine it throughout in concrete (letters, March 17 and 24, 1995).

The St Pancras gasholders are spectacular examples of Victorian engineering: the best of their kind in an industry which Britain pioneered. Surely, with a little flair and vision, they could be re-erected near by as the centrepiece of an extraordinary new project for the 21st century, such as a sports complex. The cost would be minimal in relation to the development of the King's Cross railway lands as a whole, and they would bring much needed recreational facilities to one of the most deprived parts of the capital.

We call upon London and Continental Railways and the Government to acknowledge their responsibility to Britain's remarkable engineering past and to ensure that this splendid London landmark is saved to inspire and enlighten future generations.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL COSSONS,
Director, The Science Museum,
MICHAEL BAILEY
(President, The Newcomen Society),
CHRIS BROOKS
(Chairman, Victorian Society),
DENIS SMITH
(Chairman, The Greater London Industrial Archaeology Society),
The Science Museum, SW7 2DD,
May 29.

Great Wall myth

From Mr Will Dennis

Sir, When I served in the British Embassy in Peking in the early 1980s, I too was struck by the myth that the Great Wall might be visible from the Moon (letters, May 31). Inquiries revealed that the origin goes back to the early days of Sino-US rapprochement.

Not long after the Kissinger-Nixon initiative had restored normality to Sino-US relations, a group of US astronauts visited China. They had been coached extensively by the State Department to avoid saying anything that might upset their hosts.

Accordingly, one of their number, when asked by a Chinese journalist whether or not they had seen the Great Wall from space, replied diplomatically to the effect that while they hadn't actually seen it, he was sure that it could be seen. Subsequent journalistic licence expanded the "visibility" of the Wall to include the Moon.

Anyone who has visited the Great Wall does not have to be a rocket scientist to realise that it cannot possibly be visible with the naked eye from space, being about as wide as a minor road.

I suppose, however, that this may change if the current restoration programme, which has dramatically increased the size and number of parts of the "original" Wall, continues at its present pace.

Yours faithfully,
WILL DENNIS,
10 Orchard Gardens,
Eppingham, Leatherhead, Surrey,
June 1.

Heal thyself

From Mr Graham Roberts

Sir, Like Mrs Sandie Taylor's husband (letter, May 31) and his GP partners, we have been told by the Health and Safety Executive that we must have a first-aid kit on the premises.

To be used in the case of a resurrection, perhaps?

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM ROBERTS,
T. Conchar & Sons
(Funeral Directors),
Woodland Chambers,
4 Woodland Road West,
Colwyn Bay, Clwyd,
June 1.

In safe hands

From Mr Nicholas Stewart, QC

Sir, The new senior judicial appointments (reports and leading article, May 25) mean that we shall soon have Thomas Bingham as Lord Chief Justice and Harry Woolf as Master of the Rolls. Richard Scott is already Vice-Chancellor. Between them they will head the Criminal and Civil Divisions of the Court of Appeal and the Queen's Bench and Chancery Divisions of the High Court.

It is a relief that these candidates were available and that such important judicial responsibilities are not in the hands of any Tom, Dick and Harry.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS STEWART,
4 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
May 25.

مكتبة من الأصل

OBITUARIES

IVAN SUTTON

Ivan Sutton, MBE, founder of the City Music Society, died on May 27 aged 81. He was born on December 27, 1914.

ACCORDING to *The Times's* review of the City Music Society's 50th anniversary concert in November 1993, Ivan Sutton was as important to the musical life of the City of London as Sir Christopher Wren was, in his time, to its ecclesiastical architecture. For over half a century Sutton, the self-effacing elder statesman of the British music establishment, ran the City Music Society, promoting concerts at Bishopsgate and Goldsmiths' halls where he introduced a host of musicians to City audiences.

A regular fixture at the capital's other concert halls, Sutton would offer friendly, paternal and sound advice to anyone in the music industry — performer or administrator — who sought it. A less obvious impresario would be hard to find.

Ivan James Sutton was a tall and elegant figure, slightly reduced by a scholarly stoop. His great-grandfather had founded the famous garden seed company in Reading and his father was a tea and coffee merchant in the London docks. After an unhappy time at Sevenoaks School — not then renowned for its enlightened approach to the arts — Ivan joined the family firm as what he later called "an embryo tea taster" at the age of 18.

In his early twenties he spent a year in virtual isolation because of tuberculosis. He was introduced to the world of music by a wind-up gramophone alongside his hospital bed and particularly adored the pianist Eileen Joyce's recording of the Liszt Scherzo as well as Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto. He later said of his lengthy convalescence: "I had time to read, to learn and to think."

Back in the family firm, but unwell enough to see wartime service, he passed many lunch hours at the famous concerts organised by Dame Myra Hess in the National Gallery. These were the inspiration for his future endeavours.

In 1943 Sutton founded the City Music Society on the basis of enthusiasm, members' subscriptions, admission fees and a small contribution from



the City of London Corporation. Its principal purpose was to promote lunchtime concerts in the winter months. Putting this in context Sutton once explained: "It was at a time when there were few concerts, the BBC Third Programme had not been created, nor was the long-playing gramophone available. The Queen's Hall had been destroyed and the South Bank had yet to be built."

Artists who over subsequent years were offered this prestigious showcase form the backbone of the music industry today. The Takacs Quartet — whom he helped enormously — the Lindsay Quartet, the cellist Steven Isserlis and the pianist Stephen Kovacevich were just a few. Jacqueline du Pré played there early in her career as did the *Amadeus* Quartet. Dame Margaret Price and Dame Janet Baker sang to City music lovers at Sutton's

behest and, of a now more distant generation, Elisabeth Schumann sang there. On another occasion Francis Poulenc appeared at the keyboard.

Across town the Wigmore Hall proved a source of inspiration to Sutton, and even in old age he could regularly be seen shuffling into that hallowed venue of chamber music. He also became a regular visitor to the Interforum Festival in Hungary bringing back pianists of the calibre of Andras Schiff, Zoltan Kocsis and Dezso Ranki.

For many years the role of impresario was a part-time hobby. But one wet Monday morning in the early 1960s, Sutton's secretary said to him: "I think you are more interested in music than tea." The comment provoked much soul-searching and eventually Sutton sold the family company in order to promote concerts for Trust House

Hotels. Sutton's wife Dorothy, whom he had married in 1940, proved the perfect hostess for these occasions.

The greatest coup of that time was undoubtedly when he secured the rare services of the Russian pianist, Sviatoslav Richter, for a concert at the Swan Hotel in Lavenham.

The opportunity to be artistic director of the City of London Festival came his way in 1981 and he relished the prospect of organising concerts in such a marvellous selection of buildings as exist within the Square Mile. He also enjoyed a stint programming for the London Symphony Orchestra.

Sutton's own musical tastes were catholic. He particularly enjoyed the late Beethoven quartets, as well as jazz and piano recitals, although he found Bartok difficult to bear. Under Sutton's aegis, the City Music Society regularly paid for new commissions from contemporary composers. He said: "What we do is write to our members telling them we're commissioning a new piece and would they like to contribute. And they do."

The number of people who discovered a love of music, and the number of artists who were discovered, through Sutton's concerts are immeasurable. More than anything else, the knowledge that others came to appreciate such beauty made him genuinely happy. His anecdotes of missing instruments and missing musicians, recollections with typical English reserve, are legendary within the industry.

One particular favourite of his was the story of when only two members of a string quartet turned up for a concert at Goldsmiths Hall. He said: "I was as perplexed as they were, until the other two rang from Goldsmiths' College in Lewisham." On another occasion, when the pianist Shura Cherkassky demanded a piano on which to practise during the interval of a concert, Sutton hurriedly arranged for him to use the instrument in a nearby pub — much to the bemusement of those propping up the dingy bar.

Ivan Sutton was appointed MBE in 1964. He is survived by two daughters and a son, Mark, who is a classical record producer and Professor of Music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

IVOR MILLS

Ivor Mills, news broadcaster, died on May 30 aged 66. He was born on December 7, 1929.



IVOR MILLS presented the early evening weekday news programme on ITN during the late 1960s, alternating with his colleague Gordon Honeycombe. Subsequently he was moved to the weekend news. His time at ITN came during a period when anchormen were becoming celebrities in their own right, and Mills received more fan mail than most. It was a strange sort of fame, as he was the first to admit.

Mills was a handsome man, dark-haired and with luxuriant sideburns. However, his ease and charm in front of the camera may eventually have told against him. In 1972 he and his mustachioed colleague Rory MacPherson were returned to general reporting duties. The popular press decided that they had been discriminated against for being too handsome and, therefore, "lightweight". In fact Mills was a well-read, musical man, and ITN described the move as merely in line with its normal policy of diversifying the talents of its staff.

Mills was born in Belfast and educated at Stranmillis College and Queen's University, Belfast. His first love was music. He played the piano and studied classical composition and musical history, then taught for a while in Belfast. He was very much a part of the Northern Irish scene, friendly with writers and poets like Seamus Heaney, politicians and musicians.

Gradually he was drawn

into reporting for Ulster TV, and made a name for himself as an interviewer. He was not afraid of stirring up a little controversy. In 1963 he wrote to Harold Macmillan, inviting him to come and be interviewed before a local audience on the subject of Northern Ireland's desperate economic plight. The Home Office was not enthusiastic about this sort of direct request, which it felt should have been made through the proper channels. Sharp letters were sent to Sir Arthur Kelly, the Stormont Cabinet Secretary, and Macmillan remained in London.

In 1965 Mills joined ITN as a reporter and two years later began his period as chief anchorman of the early evening news programme. He approached his work professionally, but never took his sudden rise to fame too seriously.

He covered a broad range of subjects as a reporter, including the terrible effects of the new drug thalidomide. As an interviewer, he displayed enviable talents. He would calm a

nervous subject by making a little joke. Pompous politicians were put in their place by the assumption of an even more formidable expression.

Mills belonged to a more convivial era in journalism and broadcasting. He did not believe in rushing back from a good lunch if there was no particular reason. His best friend at ITN, and occasional tennis partner, was Reggie Bosnquet.

He stayed with ITN until 1978. He then moved to the Post Office, where he had already built up a freelance career advising senior managers on how to prepare themselves for the harrowing ordeal of the television interview. His brief as head of public affairs was to build up a unit capable of fielding the increasing volume of inquiries from Parliament, the CBI and politicians.

This coincided with the start of the move to split the telecommunications side of the business from the nationalised industry. It was an intense and rocky period. British Telecom needed a lobbying presence in Parliament, and Mills headed that team. In 1981, when BT was officially launched, Mills also took on the mantle of deputy director of corporate relations. The first tranche of BT shares was sold to the public in 1984, and Mills retired four years later.

He had not been in the best of health for some time. He was diabetic, and was further debilitated after being hit by a motorcycle five years ago.

In 1956 he married Muriel Hay, a concert pianist. The marriage ended in divorce in 1987. He is survived by their son and daughter.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER GEOFFREY HODGES

Lieutenant-Commander Geoffrey Hodges, GM, specialist in mine disposal, died on May 6 aged 87. He was born on September 8, 1908.

IN THE early years of the Second World War Geoffrey Hodges was a member of the "suicide squad", a group of only about a dozen men who had been trained in the skill of deactivating mines. The Admiralty urgently needed to learn about the different types of mine that the enemy was employing and whenever an unexploded mine was found, Hodges and his colleagues at HMS Vernon, Portsmouth, would be sent out to try to recover it with firing mechanism undamaged.

In his book *Of Mines and Men*, Hodges described this perilous task, undertaken in icy seas with water lapping over the tops of his waders and his hands almost too frozen to handle the fuse. On one occasion he was severely wounded by an unexploded landmine dropped in Richmond. He often came within a hairbreadth of his life and in 1941 he was awarded the George Medal for "courage and undaunted devotion to duty".

After one particularly plucky performance he should have been awarded the DSO. In the bitter winter of 1940 he was sent to a mine which had been washed up on the shores of Whitstable. It was so cold that the sea had iced along the shoreline and Hodges and his chief petty officer had to wade through frozen spindrift to reach the mine. It took three visits before the fuse could be dismantled and the mine, now rendered safe, could be returned to HMS Vernon for inspection. However, when the report of his heroic task was made Hodges was catching up on a bit of much-needed sleep and, because he was unable to tell his part in the story, the two officers of his support party were awarded the DSO, while he was not. He never quite got over the injus-

tice of this, though at the time he comforted himself by proudly showing the mine, now loaded onto the back of a lorry, to his mother.

Before the war, Geoffrey Ambrose Hodges, a Wykehamist himself, worked as a physical training master and secretary to the headmaster at Winchester College. He was a fine athlete and cricketer but his special interest was in remedial work. Coaching pupils initially completely uninterested in physical activity, he would turn out accomplished athletes.

Hodges joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at



the beginning of 1939 and on the outbreak of war was promoted to lieutenant. He never rose above this rank during the entire time that he served, largely perhaps because his invaluable expertise in mine-disposal and minelaying rendered him more useful "at the sharp end", as he used to put it, than in any more exalted position. Indeed, when he was appointed to Admiral Bertram Ramsay's staff at Southwick House in the run-up to D-Day and Operation Overlord, his immediate superior, the mining and minesweeping commander, had never been to sea during hostilities.

His sea appointment had come through during the early years of the war. He spent a

time in HMS Teviot Bank as mining officer before becoming torpedo lieutenant on HMS *Abdiel*, one of a new class of specialised fast minelayers with the ability to maintain a speed of 36 knots over a lengthy period and thus to reach further into enemy waters than had previously been believed possible.

Of the four ships in this class, two were sent early on. HMS *Abdiel*, after many hazardous months minelaying and ferrying troops in the Mediterranean and Middle East, was sent to take part in the capture of Taranto. There, in the harbour, she too struck a mine and, breaking up, she was sunk in less than a minute and a half. A third of the ship's company was lost, and a quarter of the soldiers on board. Hodges was left mentally scarred by the experience. But he was mentioned in dispatches for his contribution during this commission.

His appointment to Southwick House followed, but when, after D-Day, the staff transferred to France, Hodges was posted to the last remaining fast minelayer, HMS *Apollo*, where he served two final commissions. The first was to Russia, where he layed deep minefields to protect convoys from submarine attack. The second was to restore Crown Prince Olaf of Norway to his country at the end of the war. Hodges met with a rapturous welcome, and received many kisses on his neat red beard from enthusiastic Norwegian women.

At the end of the war Hodges, with the retiring rank of lieutenant-commander, returned to Winchester College, retiring only in 1968. He had for many years been a prison visitor and immediately took up the post of organising tutor at Winchester prison. It was only in 1993 that he sat down to look at the detailed diary he had kept throughout the war and turned them into his memoir *Of Mines and Men*. His wife Evelyn died in 1991. He is survived by a son.

TAMARA TOUMANOVA

Tamara Toumanova, ballerina and film actress, died in Los Angeles on May 29 aged 77. She was born near Tyumen, Siberia, on March 2, 1919.

TAMARA TOUMANOVA was regarded by the Western world, throughout the 1930s and 1940s, as the supreme example of the Russian ballerina. Her reign was only really over when the arrival of the Bolshoi and Kirov companies, in the 1950s, revealed new styles and inspirations. Becoming a star while barely in her teens, Toumanova epitomised all the glamour of the Ballets Russes.

She could scarcely have had a more sparkling professional debut. In January 1932 a new ballet company assembled in Monte Carlo to fill the gap left in the artistic world by Serge Diaghilev's death. Members of Diaghilev's former company and revivals from his repertoire formed the nucleus of the venture. But George Balanchine, as principal choreographer, insisted on recruiting three very young dancers he had found in the ballet schools of Paris.

They and their teachers were all Russian émigrés. Toumanova and Irina Baronova, both pupils of Olga Preobrazhenskaya, were 13 years old. Tatiana Riabouchinska was 15. All of them were given leading roles straight away. This was a gift to publicists who dubbed them the Baby Ballerinas (a phrase Toumanova came to hate "like a toothache").

That first season she had parts created for her by Balanchine in the poetically mysterious *Conillon*, the character comedy *Concorde* and his adaptation of Molière's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. Leonide Massine used her also as the spinning top in his *Jeu d'enfants*. This last named role gives a clue to one

of the attributes that made Toumanova enormously popular with audiences; a technique far stronger (even at that young age) than they were used to seeing. She — and Baronova likewise — had a prodigious command of "fouettés", those revolving steps which, generally repeated 32 times on the spot, are guaranteed to bring tumultuous applause.

But Toumanova never relied only on her bravura technique. She was admired for her lyricism too, her charm, and her exotic Georgian beauty. She had huge eyes and an almond complexion framed with raven hair. She had, incidentally, the rare gift of completely symmetrical features. Some photographers enjoyed drawing attention to this by picturing her with a mirror.

She had been brought to France as a child when her parents fled Russia after the Revolution. Her father was a colonel in the White Russian Army, and Tamara was born when her mother, a Georgian princess, was trying to rejoin him. Trapped by snowy weather in Siberia, she was sheltered by Kazakh soldiers in the box car of a railway train and gave birth there. It took 18 months before she found her husband in Vladivostok and they set out for Shanghai, Cairo and eventually Paris. There the little girl at four and a half began dancing classes with the great Preobrazhenskaya, former prima ballerina of the Maryinsky Theatre. Tamara actually appeared in Paris on two occasions before Balanchine engaged her: first as a tiny tot of about five who was given the Polka solo at a Red Cross Gala organised by Pavlova, and then at ten at the Paris Opéra in *L'Éventail de Jeanne*, a ballet danced by students.

Toumanova was a hard worker. Her father made her



study music, literature, history and maths for fear that her passion for dance would make her ignorant of other matters. He was very much head of the house as a family, although "mamant" Eugénie Toumanova was the one who became famous as the archetypal ballet mother — fiercely protective of her daughter's welfare against any perceived slight, but in private warning her of any faults in her performance. When Balanchine, after only one season, left the Ballets Russes to form his Ballets 1933, Toumanova went too. She described him later as the most important influence and guide in his career: not a Svengali but a guardian angel who taught her the beauty of simplicity and how to "be my own best self".

The move brought her three more creations in 1933, *Mosartiana*, *Les Snyages* and *Les Fêtes*. Yet for all her precocious talent on stage, she was glad before her performances to play with a dolls house or toy train at the home of the ballet critic Arnold Haskell, a friend of the family. Balanchine's venture was artistically successful but did not make money: he went off to America and Toumanova rejoined the Ballets Russes, where she began to dance the standard repertoire with leading roles in *The Three Corners*, *Hat, Aurora's Wedding*, *Carnaval*, *Petrushka*, *The Firebird*, *Les Sylphides* and *Le Spectre de la rose* among others. Her Giselle was especially admired by many commentators. David Lichine

Massine (notably *Symphonie Fantastique*) and Igor Schewtsov all made roles for her and Balanchine returned in 1941 to create *Balustrade* for her.

Toumanova also starred on Broadway in *Stars in Your Eyes* (1939) and in 1943 made her first film, *Days of Glory*, with Gregory Peck (she was also his first wife). She married his writer and producer, Casey Robinson, and thereafter pursued a less structured stage career of guest engagements with American Ballet Theatre, the Paris Opéra Ballet, the Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas, La Scala and London Festival Ballet.

Her most important new roles during this time were in Paris, where Balanchine revived *Le Baiser de la fée* for her and used her amazing slow balances in creating *Le Palais de cristal* (later called *Symphonie in C*) in 1947. Jean Cocteau and Serge Lifar made the title part in *Phédre* for her in 1950.

She resumed her film career in 1953 with *Deep In My Heart* (opposite José Ferrer and Merle Oberon) and *Tonight We Sing* in which she played Pavlova; then Gene Kelly's *Invitation to a Dance* (1954). Hitchcock's *From Here to Eternity* (1954) and Billy Wilder's *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes* (1970).

On stage, sadly, her dancing dwindled away in a series of drab concert tours with an able but unexciting partner. This displayed her virtuosity and glamour but scarcely the artistry of her early years.

Toumanova led a quiet and secluded private life. Her marriage, which was childless, ended in divorce after about ten years. Her father died in the 1960s and her final years were spent with her mother until the latter's recent death. She had been ill for some time and the end came when she decided to discontinue her dialysis treatment.

Church news

Archdeacon of Canterbury

The Rev John Pritchard, Warden of the Theological College, Cranmer Hall, St John's College, University of Durham, diocese of Durham, is to be Archdeacon of Canterbury. He succeeds the Venerable Michael Till, now Dean of Winchester.

Other appointments

The Rev Christopher Andrews, Vicar, Alnwick (Newcastle); to be Rector, Grantham Team Ministry (Lincoln).

The Rev Thomas Barnfather, Chaplain to the Forces (Army); to be Vicar, Heybridge, St Andrew and Langford, St Giles (Chelmsford).

The Rev Kathleen Baile, Assistant Curate (NSM), the parish church of St Gabriel, Heaton (Newcastle); to be Assistant Curate (NSM), St Paul's, Wilford Hill (Southwell).

Canon Michael Bever, Vicar, St Peter, Bocking, Braintree (Chelmsford); to be Priest-in-charge, All Saints, Odham (Winchester).

The Rev Brian Blackshaw, Assistant Priest, St Anselm, Hatch End (London); to be Vicar, Cheshunt (St Albans).

The Rev Canon Leslie Brooks, Vicar, Carleton and East Hamwick; to be an Assistant Priest, permission to officiate in Ripponden, Rishworth and Birkland in West Seamondene (Wakefield).

The Rev John Clark, Rector, Taverham w Ringland (Norwich); to be Vicar, united benefice of Middleton-in-Teesdale w Forest and Prith in plurality w Eggleston (Durham).

The Rev John Corke, Team Vicar, York Pavement w St Crux (York); to be Assistant Priest, Ambleside (Worcester).

The Rev Peter Craig-Wild, Vicar, St John's, Chapelown (Sheffield); to be Vicar, St Mary's, Mirfield (Wakefield).

The Rev Alan Cunningham, Vicar, Trunch Team Ministry; to be Priest-in-charge, Lyng, Sparham, W Whitfield and Ninebanks (Newcastle).

Elting and Bylaugh, and Priest-in-charge, Fosley and Bawdeswell (Norwich).

The Rev John Denny; to be Rector of the new benefice of Barney, Fulmodeston w Croxton, Hindringham, Thursford, Great and Little Snoring w Kettlestone and Pensthorpe (Norwich). He was formerly Priest-in-charge of these parishes.

The Rev Christine Garrard, Assistant Priest, All Saints, Kesgrave; to be Vicar, All Hallows, Ipswich (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev James Gosling, NSM, Victoria Docks, St Luke (Chelmsford); to be Hon Curate, Great Mongeham w Ripple and Sutton by Dover and Northbourne, Betseshanger w Ham (Canterbury).

The Rev Dennis Gower, Priest-in-charge, Watlington w Tesson and West Farleigh; to be Rector of that benefice (Rochester).

The Rev Judith Hampson, Curate, Alnwick; to be Vicar, Allendale

w Whitfield and Ninebanks (Newcastle).

The Rev Sonia Hall, NSM, diocese of Oxford; to be Assistant Curate (half-time), Buckland St Mary the Virgin, Littleworth and Pusey (Oxford).

Resignations and retirements. Canon Joan Collinson, Team Vicar, Epiphany Team Ministry, in charge of St Hugh, and Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Newcastle); retired May 6.

The Rev Peter Dunlop, Vicar, St Peter, Monksatton (Newcastle); retired February 29.

Canon Walter Goundry, Vicar, St Bartholomew, Benton (Newcastle); retired February 9.

The Rev Michael Johnson, Chaplain, Pilgrim Hospital, Boston (Lincoln); resigned May 1.

The Rev Philip Knights, Team Vicar, Cowley Team Ministry (Oxford); resigned April 30.

The Rev Colin Scott, Vicar, Longhoughton w Bulmer and Howick (Newcastle); retired April 30.

Heavy Attack on Manchester

A heavy raid was made on Manchester on Sunday night, when thousands of incendiary bombs and many tons of high-explosive were dropped indiscriminately. Present reports indicate that fatal casualties are believed not to be particularly heavy, considering the ferocity with which the town was bombarded. Once again churches, hospitals and the homes of the people were among the buildings damaged. One of the worst incidents occurred at a nurses' home, which was wrecked by a heavy bomb. Rescue work was still going on yesterday and one of the workers said that it was known that at least two of the people underneath were alive because some of the men had spoken to them and had heard their faint reply. By dawn five bodies had been recovered, and a few hours later, after some soldiers and an airman, together with civil defence workers, had dug and torn their way through the heap of rubble, a doctor from the hospital was able to crawl

ON THIS DAY

June 3, 1941



It is well to be reminded that London was not by any means the only target in the Blitz

through an opening where it was found that one nurse was trapped by her arm. With the light of miners' lamps he administered an anaesthetic on the severely injured young woman and amputated her arm on the spot. Soon afterwards she was got out, but the shock and her injuries proved too much, and she died within a few minutes. Another nurse was extricated after being buried for nearly 12 hours. She is a first-year probationer at the hospital and her home is at St. Asaph. She was uncon-

scious when rescued, and the matron told a reporter that she would have an immediate blood transfusion. "She is suffering badly from shock, the effect of many hours' buried under the heavy debris, and from cuts and bruises," the matron added. Four of the missing are young nurses who entered the hospital for preliminary training a few weeks ago. The hospital to which the home is attached was not damaged, and there were no casualties among patients. Two other hospitals received damage through fire or explosive bombs, but fortunately the patients had been removed to safety. Five wardens were killed on patrol and a curate was killed while on shelter duty outside his church.

Belfast City Hall was damaged in a recent air raid. Fire bombs fell on the roof over the ballroom, and though the roof was damaged and some portraits in the ballroom were destroyed, good work by firefighters saved the main structure. Thirty Belfast churches have been wrecked or damaged.

عبدالله من الأصل

